

CONFIDENTIAL.

(5178.)

PART X.

**F.O.
403**

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

AFFAIRS OF NORTH AFRICA.

55

January to June 1885.

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Further Correspondence respecting the Affairs of North Africa.

PART X.

No. 1.

Earl Granville to Mr. Reade.

(No. 1.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 1, 1885.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 51 of the 15th ultimo, describing the causes of the delay in holding the inquiry into the circumstances connected with the murder of Ernesto Pace, I have to request that, unless you have already done so, you will explain to Mr. Giuseppe Pace the present situation of the case, and give him such aid as may be in your power with a view of expediting the inquiry in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 2.

Mr. Reade to Earl Granville.—(Received January 2, 1885.)

(No. 52.)

My Lord.

Tunis, December 26, 1884.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 50 of the 10th instant, reporting a question that had arisen with regard to the privilege which foreign Representatives in this Regency enjoy of immunity from all customs dues, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of some further correspondence that has passed between this office and the French Residency on the subject.

M. Cambon, whose letters are remarkable for the tact and finesse with which they are written, although apparently yielding to the views of the foreign Representatives as expressed in the reply which forms the second inclosure of my former Report, and recognizing as a matter of undoubted right privileges to which he had before alluded as "favours" of a purely personal nature, maintains nevertheless the principal point under discussion, which is the right of inspection at the custom-houses of parcels and other effects coming to the address of any member of the foreign Representative Corps, whether he be entitled to immunity from taxation or not.

I will not presume to comment on the above circumstances further than by remarking upon the prejudicial effect which such a pretension as that now claimed would, if carried into execution, have upon the official status of foreign Representatives in a country where, as in Morocco, Egypt, or any part of the Ottoman dominions, the native population are apt to regard any interference at the custom-house with the baggage or other property of a foreign Representative as an indignity to his national flag.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. F. READE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

M. Cambon to Mr. Reade.

M. l'Agent et Consul-Général,

Tunis, le 12 Décembre, 1884.

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que je me suis empressé de transmettre au Gouvernement Tunisien les observations que vous avez bien voulu me présenter par

votre lettre du 9 Décembre courant, relativement aux dispositions prises par lui pour régler l'exercice des franchises douanières qui vous sont accordées en Tunisie.

Elles ont donné lieu, de votre part, à deux réserves au sujet desquelles je suis heureux de pouvoir vous fournir des explications de nature à vous satisfaire:—

1. La franchise douanière n'est pas une faveur qui vous soit personnelle; c'est au contraire un privilège inhérent à votre caractère officiel.

Le Gouvernement Tunisien ne l'a jamais comprise autrement; elle n'est certainement attachée à votre personne qu'en raison de la qualité dont vous êtes investi. Cette réserve résulte sans doute d'un malentendu.

2. Aucune Administration ne peut, par la visite des colis qui vous sont adressés, mettre en doute l'exactitude de vos déclarations.

Les droits de la douane par leur généralité même, ne sauraient éveiller votre légitime susceptibilité. En tout cas, le Gouvernement Tunisien me charge tout spécialement de vous assurer que vous vous êtes mépris sur la portée de cette disposition réglementaire, qui n'est inspirée par aucun sentiment de méfiance à l'égard des attestations que vous délivrez. Il y a toujours ajouté foi sans réserve, et, loin de faire preuve aujourd'hui de suspicion à ce sujet, il a montré par le Règlement même, dont j'ai eu l'honneur de vous faire connaître les termes, qu'il ne croyait pas qu'il fût possible de trouver une meilleure garantie pour lui qu'une déclaration signée de votre nom.

Je me plais à espérer que, mieux éclairé sur la nature des mesures qui ont fait l'objet de ma communication du 7 Décembre courant, vous estimerez avec moi qu'un Règlement intérieur du Service de la Douane ne méritait pas de faire l'objet de négociations avec votre Gouvernement.

Agrées, &c.
(Signé) PAUL CAMBON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

Mr. Reade to M. Cambon.

M. le Ministre,

Tunis, le 13 Décembre, 1884.

J'AI reçu la note que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adresser, en date d'hier, me transmettant les éclaircissements que vous avez eu la bonté de demander au Gouvernement Tunisien au sujet de certaines mesures relatives à la franchise des droits de douane dont vous m'avez donné connaissance par votre note du 7 courant.

Ces éclaircissements sont, en effet, de nature à dissiper tous mes doutes, et je suis heureux qu'ils me permettent d'apprécier justement les bienveillantes intentions du Gouvernement de Son Altesse à mon égard.

Il reste donc acquis que, par le privilège inhérent au caractère officiel, le chef de ce poste et tous les autres officiers Consulaires qui réunissent les conditions voulues par l'Article III du Traité Anglo-Tunisien du 19 Juillet, 1875, jouissent, comme ils en ont toujours joui en Tunisie, de la franchise douanière, et qu'il est bien entendu que, dans aucun cas, aujourd'hui comme par le passé, un colis quelconque arrivant à l'adresse du dit chef de poste ou à celle d'un des officiers de la catégorie susmentionnée ne pourra être visité par l'Administration des Douanes.

Je vous serais très reconnaissant, M. le Ministre, si, par une réponse à cette communication, vous voudriez bien me mettre en mesure, comme je le désire vivement, de notifier au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine la pleine conformité de nos vues à ce sujet.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) THOS. F. READE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 2.

M. Cambon to Mr. Reade.

M. l'Agent et Consul-Général,

Tunis, le 16 Décembre, 1884.

J'AI l'honneur de vous accuser réception de la lettre que vous m'avez adressée, le 13 de ce mois, en réponse à ma communication du 12 du même mois relative à la franchise des droits de douane qui vous est accordée.

Je me suis empressé de transmettre cette lettre au Gouvernement Tunisien, et je ne manquerai pas de vous faire connaître ses appréciations à ce sujet.

Agrées, &c.
(Signé) PAUL CAMBON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 2.

M. Cambon to Mr. Reade.

M. l'Agent et Consul-Général,

Tunis, le 21 Décembre, 1884.

AINSI que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous en informer par ma lettre du 16 Décembre courant, j'ai transmis au Gouvernement Tunisien la communication que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser le 13 du même mois.

Celui-ci me fait aujourd'hui observer qu'il semble y avoir un malentendu sur l'interprétation du passage de l'Article III du Traité Anglo-Tunisien du 19 Juillet, 1875, relatif aux franchises douanières des Représentants Consulaires de Sa Majesté Britannique dans la Régence.

Vous paraîssiez donner à ses termes une étendue plus grande qu'ils ne comportent. Cet Article limite, en effet, la franchise douanière à certains personnages, successivement énumérés, et qui sont l'Agent et Consul-Général, les Consuls et les Vice-Consuls, et, encore, a-t-il soin d'ajouter que cette disposition ne doit pas s'étendre à ceux de ces officiers Consulaires qui sont engagés dans le commerce.

Quant au droit de visite des colis jouissant de la franchise douanière, vous savez avec quelle discrétion le Gouvernement Tunisien en a toujours usé.

Il me charge de vous assurer que vous trouverez plus d'égards encore que par le passé auprès des nouveaux Agents du Service des Douanes, et il se plaît à croire que vous ne douterez pas, en ce qui vous concerne, des intentions qui l'ont guidé, lorsqu'il a cru devoir entreprendre la réforme de l'Administration Douanière et lui donner une organisation conforme aux règles suivies par les Grandes Puissances d'Europe.

Agrées, &c.
(Signé) PAUL CAMBON.

Inclosure 5 in No. 2.

Mr. Reade to M. Cambon.

M. le Ministre,

Tunis, le 24 Décembre, 1884.

J'AI l'honneur de vous accuser réception de la note que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser le 21 de ce mois au sujet des droits de franchise douanière, et je m'empresse de la communiquer à mon Gouvernement.

En vous remerciant de vos expressions si particulièrement bienveillantes à mon égard, je saisis, &c.

(Signé) THOS. F. READE.

No. 3.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 1.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 2, 1885.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith an extract from the French "Journal Officiel," giving copy of a Decree appointing M. Féraud, now French Consul-General at Tripoli, to be French Minister at Tangier in the place of M. Orlega.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 4.

Mr. M. de J. Levy to Earl Granville.—(Received January 5.)

My Lord,

59, Finchurch Street, London, January 5, 1885.

I BEG to acknowledge receipt of the communication addressed to me on the 27th December, and to express my grateful thanks to your Lordship for the instructions transmitted to Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at Tunis.

I have reason to believe, however, that Mr. Consul Reade has already supported my representative at Tunis as much as possible.

The question of arbitration having been referred by the French military authorities in Tunis to the Minister of War at Paris, I venture to express the hope that your Lordship may think fit to request Her Majesty's Ambassador to lay the matter before the Government of the French Republic, in order to promote a speedy and equitable settlement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) M. DE J. LEVY.

No. 5.

Earl Granville to Sir J. S. Lawley.

(No. 8.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 7, 1885.

THE Italian Ambassador at this Court informed me to-day that his Government wished to contradict absolutely the reports which have appeared in the public journals on the subject of a projected Italian expedition to Tripoli.

His Excellency added that the Italian Government, whilst desirous that the conditions of the balance of power at present existing in the Mediterranean should not be altered to their disadvantage, were, on the other hand, quite decided to respect the *status quo* and the situation founded on European Treaties so long as the actual state of things should not be menaced and no attempt be made by others to interfere with it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 6.

Memorandum by Sir E. Hertslet on Messrs. Bowker's Letter of December 18, 1884.

ON the 27th November, 1879, Messrs. Bowker and Co. wrote to this Office to say that, on the 19th August preceding, they had written to Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador respecting some money in his hands in which they were interested, but that they could obtain no reply.

Acting Consul Johnston, on being called upon to furnish an explanation, stated that, although he had not, for reasons which he assigned, answered Messrs. Bowker's first letter, he had answered a second one, dated the 26th November.

Messrs. Bowker, however, assured Lord Salisbury that they had never received it, and Acting Consul Johnston was, in consequence, instructed to send a copy of it to this Office, which he did; and as it refers to Mr. James Curtis' claim against the Moorish Government referred to in Messrs. Bowker's present letter, it is sent herewith. (No. 4, March 5, 1880.)

It is not at all clear from Messrs. Bowker's statement what this claim is all about; but, as far as I can gather from the papers, it arose out of some commercial speculations at Sûs, for in June 1881 Messrs. McNaught and Co. wrote to this Office to inquire whether the province of Sûs was recognized by Her Majesty's Government as being included within the boundaries of Morocco, and whether Her Majesty's Government would protect a British trading station, if opened there, against the interference of the Sultan, when they were informed (21st July) that the boundary of Morocco, as understood by Her Majesty's Government, extended along the coast of the Atlantic as far south as Wady Draa, about a day's journey south of Wadnoon.

This letter appears to have been shown to Mr. J. Curtis, for on the 26th October following he wrote to Lord Granville to say he "was astounded" when Messrs.

McNaught showed him the letter from this Office of the 21st July concerning the country of Sûs. He then asked for explanations on certain points, and as the present application relates no doubt to the same subject, it may be as well to quote from his letter somewhat fully. He said:—

"The first is, that when the Sultan of Morocco appointed the Commission to examine into and settle by compromise all claims for debts due to foreign subjects by his own subjects, the Commissioners met at Tangier and examined the proofs of debts in a desultory manner during a period of four years, i.e., from 1876 to 1879, the compromises effected ranging from 5 per cent. to 55 per cent.; but they utterly refused to entertain or examine any claims made upon Sûs people, under the plea that the proofs were drawn by Moors residing in districts over which the Sultan had no jurisdiction. I myself hold letters to this effect, written by Her Majesty's Consul of Mogador, combined with one from the Private Secretary of our Ambassador at Tangier, who I had asked to act for me to arrange my claims with the Commissioners.

"The second fact is that when the Spanish Government, in 1879, demanded of the Moorish Government the fulfilment of the VIIIth Article of their Treaty of Peace, i.e., the Port called Santa Cruz de Mar Pequena, which is supposed to lie south of Santa Cruz Agadir, the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, when asked in the Cortes what reply had been received from the Sultan of Morocco, stated, and it was fully reported in the "Gibraltar Chronicle," the "Gibraltar Guardian," as well as all the Spanish papers, that the reply was, in short, that as Sûs was not under the jurisdiction of the Sultan, he could not grant to Spain a port on the coast of a country which did not belong to him.

"I should, therefore, feel much obliged if you could inform me how it is that Her Majesty's Government still understand that Sûs is under the jurisdiction of the Sultan of Morocco, when he and his Ministers have stated the contrary, not only to the Spanish Government, but to the foreign merchants residing in Morocco."

In reply to these inquiries, Mr. Curtis was simply informed that the definition in question of the southern boundary of Morocco was founded upon the information in the possession of this Office, which showed that the Wady Draa had long been considered to be the southern limit on the coast of the territory of Morocco, and that the Province of Sûs had been claimed as part of that territory and recognized as such by Her Majesty's Government, but, it was added, that Lord Granville had no information at his disposal which would enable him to reply to the other questions raised in his letter. (To Mr. Curtis, November 24, 1884.)

E. H.

Foreign Office, January 7, 1885.

No. 7.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Mr. M. de Levy.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 7, 1885.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant relative to your claim at Tunis.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 8.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 2.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 8, 1885.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, copies of despatches, as marked in the margin,* which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, respecting the occupation by Spain of territory in North-west Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

* See Part IX, No. 61.

No. 9.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 3.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 9, 1885.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a letter from Messrs. Bowker and Co., of Manchester, complaining of the delays which have occurred in the settlement of the claim of James Curtis against the Moorish Government,* and I have to request that you will furnish me with a Report upon Messrs. Bowker's complaints.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 10.

Mr. Lister to Messrs. R. C. Bowker and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, January 9, 1885.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to inform you, with reference to your letter of the 18th ultimo, that your complaint of the delay which has occurred in settling James Curtis' claim against the Moorish Government has been referred to Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier for a Report.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. V. LISTER.

No. 11.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received January 10.)

(No. 3.)

My Lord,

Tangier, January 1, 1885.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 49 of the 2nd ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the appointment of M. Ordega to Bucharest is confirmed, and that M. Féraud, Consul-General at Tripoli, succeeds him as Minister here.

M. Ordega has, I understand, requested the French Government to be allowed to remain at Tangier until the middle of February, to avoid the cold weather in Wallachia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 12.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received January 10.)

(No. 4. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, January 1, 1885.

THE Spanish Minister, M. Diosdado, acquaints me that in the course of conversation with M. Ordega the latter informed him that he understands the Sultan intends to send the Governor of Oochda, Cid Abdelmalek Ben-el-Hashmy, and his Shereefian Majesty's brother, Mulai Araf, on an Embassy to Paris.

M. Ordega observed to M. Diosdado that he did not know what might be the object of the mission, but as Kaid Abdelmalek is the Governor of the frontier town of Oochda, and had lately been engaged with Mulai Araf in visiting the tribes dwelling on the frontier, and as these personages had also entered Algeria and communicated with the authorities there, he thought it possible the Sultan might have the intention of communicating with the Government at Paris regarding some rectification of the frontier, but that he had not received any communication from the Moorish Government on the subject.

M. Ordega observed that Mulai Araf was an intelligent Prince, and had been much struck with the prosperous state of the frontier tribes dwelling in Algeria as contrasted with those of Morocco, and with the advantages to be derived from railroads.

* See Part IX, No. 68.

7.

Cid Mohamed Ben Suleyman, one of the Sultan's Private Secretaries, who is still at Tangier upon the Commission for claims of foreign subjects, informs me that neither Cid Mohamed Bargash, before his departure for Rabat, nor he himself, had received any communication from the Court regarding the alleged intention of the Sultan to send an Embassy to Paris, and that he did not believe it was probable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 13.

Mr. Reade to Earl Granville.—(Received January 14.)

(No. 1.)

My Lord,

Tunis, January 5, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 40 of the 27th ultimo, inclosing the copy of a letter that had been addressed to your Lordship's Office by Mr. M. de J. Levy, of London, regarding his claim against the French military authorities for indemnity in respect of a piece of ground and store at Gabes which they took possession of in 1881, and have since occupied and built upon.

On the point of absenting myself, with your Lordship's permission, from this country, I must leave Dr. Arpa to carry out the instruction as to any further proceedings that may be taken in this case.

I beg, however, in the meanwhile, to transmit copies of the letters I wrote to M. Cambon when forwarding to him the protests of Mr. Levy's attorney that are referred to in your Lordship's despatch, and the replies I received thereto.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. F. READE.

Inclosure I in No. 13.

Mr. Reade to M. Cambon.

Excellency,

Tunis, November 24, 1884.

WITH reference to the communications that have passed between the Residency and this Office on the subject of a claim preferred against the military authorities at Gabes by Mr. M. de J. Levy, of London, in respect of a plot of ground and store belonging to him, and situated in that town, which the said military authorities have occupied since the year 1881, I have the honour to transmit the inclosed copy of a letter from Mr. Levy's attorney protesting against a further delay, to which, with regard to the arbitral settlement of the claim in question, his client is subjected by an intended reference of the matter to Paris.

It is now nearly ten months since, with the assent of the Baron d'Estournelles, I informed Mr. Levy of the decision at which we had arrived, that his case would be referred to arbitration, and that, so far as the French military authorities were concerned, their Arbitrator had already been selected. Some months later, the Colonel of Engineers, under whose direction the arbitration was to take place, expressed to me his astonishment at what appeared an unaccountable tardiness on the part of the claimant in proceeding with his case. It is to be regretted that, while no such tardiness can any longer be imputed to Mr. Levy's representatives, the delay which is now complained of should be found necessary.

I can only hope that, through the good offices of your Excellency, the proceedings of the arbitration may be speedily resumed, and the question which is the subject of that arbitration, and has so long proved a matter of difficult negotiation, brought to a final solution.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. F. READE.

Inclomure 2 in No. 13.

M. Cambon to Mr. Reade.

M. l'Agent et Consul-Général,
J'AI l'honneur de vous informer que je transmets à M. le Général Commandant la Division d'Occupation, pour être communiqué à M. le Colonel Directeur du Génie à Tunis, la lettre de Mr. Levy, de Londres, qui était annexée à la vôtre du 24 de ce mois.
Agrées, &c.
(Signé) PAUL CAMBON.

Inclomure 3 in No. 13.

Mr. Reade to M. Cambon.

Excelsency,
Tunis, le 25 Novembre, 1884.
WITH reference to my official communication of the 24th ultimo respecting the question at issue between the military authorities at Gabes and Mr. M. de J. Levy, of London, I have the honour to transmit to you the inclosed copy of a further protest which has been addressed to this Agency and Consulate-General on behalf of the said Mr. Levy, in consequence of the continuance of the delay to which, owing to an alleged want of authority on the part of Lieutenant-Colonel Grippois, the arbitral proceedings in connection with the above question are subjected.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. F. READE.

Inclomure 4 in No. 13.

M. Cambon to Mr. Reade.

M. l'Agent et Consul-Général,
Tunis, le 10 Décembre, 1884.
J'AI l'honneur de vous informer que je transmets à M. le Général Commandant la Division d'Occupation de Tunisie, pour être remise à M. le Lieutenant-Colonel Grippois, la copie d'une nouvelle requête protestative formulée par Mr. M. de J. Levy, de Londres, et qui était annexée à votre lettre du 8 de ce mois.
Agrées, &c.
(Signé) PAUL CAMBON.

No. 14.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received January 14.)

(No. 5.)
My Lord,

Tangier, January 8, 1885.
IN a leading article of the "Standard" of the 26th ultimo, it was stated that I had been requested by the Sultan of Morocco to transmit to His Majesty copies of the Protocols of the Conference at Berlin.

In the "Réveil du Maroc" of Tangier this article is commented on by the editor, who no doubt has received as usual his inspiration from M. Ordega.

As it is not improbable that this article in the "Réveil" may be alluded to by French and other foreign journals, I think it right that I should inform your Lordship that neither the Sultan nor any one of his officers has requested me to give them information regarding the proceedings of the Conference at Berlin, nor have I ever mentioned the subject either to Cid Mohamed Bargash or any other Moorish officer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 15.

Sir J. Pauncefoot to Mr. M. de J. Levy.

Foreign Office, January 14, 1885.
Sir,
WITH reference to your letter of the 5th instant, I am directed by Earl Granville to inform you that Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at Tunis has been requested to furnish a Report upon the present position of your claim against the French military authorities, and that upon its receipt a further communication will be addressed to you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOOT.

No. 16.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received January 17.)

(No. 6.)

My Lord,

Tangier, January 10, 1885.
I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 54 of the 31st ultimo, transmitting copy of a letter and of its inclosures from Baron de Worms, President of the Anglo-Jewish Association, relative to the persecution which the Jews of Demnat are alleged to be suffering at the hands of the Governor of that place, and directing me to make immediate inquiry into the matter and to do my utmost to obtain the punishment of the Governor and the cessation of the persecution of the unfortunate Jews.

In the beginning of August of last year the tyrannical conduct of the Governor of Demnat towards the Jews was brought under my notice, and I addressed a letter to the Vizir, of which I inclose a translation.

I left Tangier before I received a reply. On the 18th September, Mr. White, in my absence, made a further representation on the same subject to the Vizir. A translation of his letter and of the Vizir's reply are herewith annexed.

The Italian Minister and the United States' Consul-General had also addressed letters to the Moorish Court upon this subject.

A Commissioner named Cid Mohamed Taher-el-Gerary was dispatched by the Sultan to Demnat, to inquire into the charges put forward against the Governor by the deputation of Jews sent from Demnat to Tangier, and to the Sheressian Court, and he was directed to read to the Jews an Edict of the Sultan, in which I am told orders were given by His Sheressian Majesty that the Governor should desist from levying irregular contributions upon, and exacting forced labour from, the Jews.

On the 10th ultimo, having received a report from the Acting British Vice-Consul at Daralbaida, regarding an outrage committed on the Agent of the late British Vice-Consul, Mr. Lapeen, by the dependants of the Governor of Demnat, I addressed a letter to the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hadj Mohamed Torres, of which I inclose a translation, requiring that an indemnity should be given for the losses of the British subject, from the seizure of his property, and that the Governor of Demnat should be dismissed. This letter was transmitted by Hadj Mohamed Torres to the Court, but crossed, en route, a letter addressed to me by the Vizir, on the 20th ultimo, transmitting copies of letters from the Commissioner, Gerary, the Governor of Demnat, and of a document containing notarial evidence of witnesses, in which it is declared that the Jewish brethren of the deputation sent to Tangier and Fez to complain of the Governor of Demnat, had after the lecture of Sultan's Decree, by the Commissioner Gerary, indulged in opprobrious language respecting the Moorish Government, and had stoned and wounded the Mahomedans. The Vizir further informs me that the Sultan was about to give orders that these Jews, as also the members of the deputation, should be imprisoned. I inclose a translation of the Vizir's letter.

I do not transmit translations of the three documents referred to, as the pith of these is contained in the Vizir's letter.

Having learnt from the Italian Minister, M. Scovasso, that he had received a similar communication from the Vizir, and as we are both convinced that the Sultan and his Ministers have been deceived, or have wilfully allowed themselves to be misled by the Governor of Demnat, who by menace or bribery has induced the Commissioner and others to give evidence, that the abject and defenceless Jews of Demnat had, on hearing the reading of the Sultan's benevolent Decree, acted in the extraordinary and outrageous manner described, we agreed to address the Vizir replies of an identic character, and to inform him that the accusation made against the Jews of Demnat

of having abused the Government and of having stoned the Mussulmans, sufficed to satisfy us that the evidence produced had been obtained by the Governor through menace or bribery, and that we were extremely surprised that the Vizir should have accepted such evidence as being worthy of credence.

We again appeal to the Sultan, through the Vizir, that justice should be done to his unfortunate Jewish subjects, and that the Governor should be punished on account of his tyrannical acts and disobedience to the Sultan's orders. I require also that an indemnity should be given to the Agent of the British subject upon whom the outrage had been committed by the dependants of the Governor of Demnat.

I have the honour to inclose a translation of my reply to the Vizir.

Your Lordship will learn from this letter that I have requested a Moorish friend, Cid Boobekir El Khanjow, who has been employed by me successfully on previous occasions in obtaining justice for Jews in the interior. He resides at the city of Morocco, which is about a day's journey from Demnat. Boobekir is a man of considerable wealth, and is held in high esteem by the Sultan and his Ministers. I expect that he will be enabled to give an unbiased account of what has occurred, as he has no cause to apprehend the vengeance of the Governor.

I caused him to be furnished with letters from Jews of position in Tangier to the chief Jews at Demnat, making known his errand, and requesting them to afford him information.

I shall impart to the Vizir, in a private letter, that since I addressed him on the 3rd instant, I have received your Lordship's instruction to make an inquiry into the matter, and to require that justice be done.

I shall transmit to your Lordship a translation of Vizir's reply when it is received. I am told the Governor of Demnat has been summoned to the Sherceefian Court for the feast of the "Moolood."

Though I am of opinion, as I have stated, that the Jews of Demnat have been cruelly treated by the Governor, and deserve commiseration and the interest which has been taken in their behalf, I think it my duty to make known to your Lordship that the Jews in this country, especially those who dwell at the capitals of Fez and Mequinez, and who receive protection from the French and other representatives here, by their usurious and fraudulent practices, produced the most intense feeling of hatred on the part of the Mahomedan population towards their race. I am told that vengeance is vowed when a fitting opportunity presents itself, either by a revolution or disturbance of the peace, from a rupture of relations with some foreign Government.

These protected Jews have, I am assured, on various occasions presented false claims for debts to a large amount drawn up through bribery by Mahomedan notaries against wealthy Mahomedans. Other documents have been presented by the French Legation of claims for debts of protected Jews in which I am told the names of the original creditors, who sold these documents to their present possessors, have been scraped out and the names of protected persons inserted—in fact, forgeries. I have been informed confidentially by several Mahomedans, high in office, that the revengeful feelings of the Mahomedans at Fez against the Jews are raised to the highest pitch, and that at any moment a massacre and pillage in the Jewish quarter might take place when the Sultan is not residing at the capital. I have frequently requested the Jewish Elders at Tangier to warn their brethren against these malpractices. I have pointed out to them the unpopularity and persecution of Jews even in civilized countries on account of accusations made against them of usury, which has brought them into detestation.

Irregular protection afforded in this country by foreign representatives is at the bottom of the evil, and the practice of foreign Legations and Consulates insisting upon the settlement of claims for debts against Mahomedans, without admitting an impartial inquiry before payment is demanded.

It would not perhaps be advisable to communicate to Baron de Worms or other members of the Anglo-Jewish Association, the language I have held in this despatch regarding the action of some of the foreign representatives in supporting fraudulent claims, but it might have a beneficial effect upon the minds of the Jewish Elders of Morocco, who may be in communication with the Anglo-Jewish Association, if the latter were to warn them of the great danger both as regards life and property, to which the Jews of this country may at any time be exposed, if a check is not put upon the nefarious practices of their brethren who enjoy protection and obtain through foreign representatives the liquidation of claims of a fraudulent or of an usurious character.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Hadj Mohamed Torres.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

Tangier, August 7, 1884.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith the translation of a complaint received by the Jews of Tangier from the Jews of Demnat respecting the tyranny and injustice of their Governor, Hadj Jelaly, towards them.

I request that you lose no time in making their complaint known to His Sherceefian Majesty, and that you beg His Majesty, in his wisdom, and from his sentiments of pity for his unfortunate subjects, to give such orders as may put a stop to these cruel and tyrannical acts of the said Kaid.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

Mr. White to the Vizier.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

Tangier, September 23, 1884.

HER Majesty's Minister addressed you a letter, on the 7th August, requesting you to bring under the notice of the Sultan the cruel and tyrannical conduct of the Kaid of Demnat, Hadj Jelaly, towards the Jews.

I am informed that this Kaid, instead of ceasing from his evil conduct, has increased his persecutions and ill-treatment of the unfortunate Jews who reside under his government.

I transmit to you herewith a statement of the Jews, giving some particulars of the barbarous acts of Hadj Jelaly towards them. He has even dared to state that he has the authority of His Sherceefian Majesty for his ill-treatment of the Jews, thereby calumniating His Majesty, who has ever taken a generous and kindly interest in the welfare of his Jewish subjects.

These evil deeds of Kaid Jelaly have been noised abroad, and cannot fail to produce a very injurious effect on public opinion in Europe as regards this country.

I trust that the Sultan will mark his displeasure at the conduct of the Kaid in some public manner, and that His Majesty will order him to make ample reparation to the victims of his persecutions, so that it may be made known everywhere that His Majesty is swift to punish those of his servants who abuse their power by maltreating and oppressing the innocent.

His Majesty has given constant proof of his desire that his Jewish subjects be treated with justice, but Governors of districts in the interior do not follow His Majesty's gracious example.

By severely repressing such acts of cruelty as have been practised by Kaid Jelaly, His Majesty will put an effectual stop to these evil deeds.

I beg you to communicate this letter to His Sherceefian Majesty.

(Signed) HORACE P. WHITE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 16.

The Vizier to Mr. White.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

24 Hejjeh, 1301 (October 15, 1884).

WE communicated to His Majesty the Sultan your letter referring to the Jews of Demnat, who are suffering from ill-treatment at the hands of their Governor. His Majesty has taken note of the contents of your letter, and has ordered us to reply to you on the subject as follows.

The above-mentioned Jews had arrived at the Court, bearing a letter from the Representative of our Lord at Tangier, Hadj Mohamed Torres, and they complained of the conduct of the Governor, and their complaint received attention, and orders were given to the said Governor, the Kadi, and the Emin, as will be explained to you by Hadj Mohamed Torres; and the servant of our Lord, Kaid Bashir Ben Barik, el Habeshi, was appointed to inquire into the matter.

The Jews of Demnat then departed from the Court, but they again returned

bringing a fresh complaint against the Governor of Demnat, reporting the matter in a manner which we considered to be exaggerated and inadmissible, especially in regard to Government officers.

His Majesty sent to Demnat, in addition to the above-mentioned Kaid, other persons of his confidence, to make an inquiry into the matter and ascertain the truth; and if the culpability of the Governor is established, he will be dealt with in a manner that will command public attention, for our Lord will not permit acts of injustice to be committed towards any person whatsoever, and especially towards the Jews, regarding whom our Lord makes provision.

(Signed) **MOHAMMED BEN EL ARBI BEN EL MUKHTAR.**

Inclosure 4 in No. 16.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Hadj Mohamed Torres.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

Tangier, December 10, 1884.

THE Acting British Vice-Consul at Daralbaida informs me that the Governor of Demnat had ordered his soldiers and slaves to seize goods to the value of 300 dollars belonging to the late Vice-Consul, the merchant, Mr. Lapeen, which were in the hands of his agent, Yakub Abithok, who had been dispatched by the said merchant to Demnat to sell them.

I inclose the documents which refer to this outrage on the part of the Governor of Demnat.

I have to require that the 300 dollars, the value of the goods, be paid without delay, and that an indemnity be given by the Governor for this outrage upon the agent and seizure of property of a British subject.

I have further to require that the Sultan mark his displeasure by the dismissal of the said Governor, who has had the audacity to seize British property. His cruelty to, and oppression of, His Shereefian Majesty's Jewish subjects have already been the subject of representations on the part of myself and other Representatives, but, from the commission of this fresh outrage, it does not appear that any expression of His Majesty's displeasure at the said Governor's misconduct had been received by him.

(Signed) **J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.**

Inclosure 5 in No. 16.

The Vizier to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After usual preamble and compliments.)

2 Rubees I, 1302 (December 20, 1884).

THE Taleb Sid Taher El Jerari, who had been dispatched by His Shereefian Majesty to the Jews at Demnat, to put a stop to the ill-treatment they had complained of, and to read to them His Majesty's Edict, read the Edict to the chief Jews, and they replied that what had been complained of by some of the Jews had not occurred.

Then, after the lecture of the Edict had taken place, those Jews who are in league with the Jewish deputation, who came to the Court to complain, proceeded to act as described in his (Jerari's) letter, and in the letter of the Governor, and as is certified in the notarial document inclosed herewith.

These Jews abused the Government and threw stones at the Mussulmans, wounding some of them, and a tumult took place. The Jews did this in the hope that the Governor and the Mahommedans would then give grounds for them to complain of ill-treatment, but they did not succeed, for the Governor did not take notice of their violence, and prevented the Mahommedans from retaliating, and tranquillized them, and told them to have patience so that the matter should be referred to the Shereefian Court, who would give orders to restrain the Jews.

Judicious persons, like yourself, will acknowledge that such misconduct might produce very serious tumults and consequences in this country, for the chief Mahommedans, the Shereefs, and others, as also the wild tribes of Berbers dwelling in the neighbourhood of Demnat, if they learn that such proceedings of feeble Jews are tolerated, may proceed to commit acts of violence upon them, and how are they to be prevented, and how is the safety of these Jews and of their brethren, who had taken no part in such disorderly conduct, to be insured? How can the Government, or the

Governor of Demnat insure the safety of the Jews who have chosen to act thus, and not to acknowledge the benevolence shown them by His Shereefian Majesty.

The Government cannot remain inactive and silent after the commission of such disorders on the part of these Jews. Misconduct may occur on the part of Jews dwelling in the towns within the dominions, but it is a more serious matter when disorders are committed by Jews dwelling in towns situated on the borders of districts where the wild Berbers dwell. The Governor, therefore, will have to chastise the Jews of Demnat, and also the members of the deputation who came to the Court to complain, and who encouraged their brethren to bring about these disorders, and thus to check further misdoings.

His Shereefian Majesty has ordered us to communicate to you the precise information we now send, and to request that you pay no further attention to the complaints of those Jews who came here or to Tangier, and to send them away. His Shereefian Majesty is about to dispatch orders regarding the Jews at Demnat and the members of the deputation who came here.

(Signed) **MOHAMMED BEN EL ARBI BEN EL MUKHTAR.**

Inclosure 6 in No. 16.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Vizier.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

Tangier, January 3, 1885.

I HAVE received your letter of 2 Rabis I (20th December) informing me that the Taleb Cid Taher Algerary, who had been sent by His Shereefian Majesty to Demnat, to put a stop to the ill-treatment, which it was alleged the Jews of that place had suffered from the tyrannical conduct of the Governor, and to communicate to the chief Jews His Majesty's Decree, has reported that the said chief Jews had not made any complaints such as the deputation of Jews now in Fez had brought forward, that after the public lecture of the said Decree those Jews, who are in league with the deputation that presented the complaint to His Shereefian Majesty, indulged in abusive language against the Government, and threw stones at the Mahommedans, of whom several were wounded, and that a tumult took place. In corroboration of this declaration you transmit copies of the letters of the Governor of Demnat and of the Commissioner Cid Taher Algerary, and of a "Beena" drawn up by public notaries. You observe that such turbulent conduct cannot be overlooked as it might give rise to serious consequences, and that it is therefore the intention of the Government to arrest and punish those Jews who have been guilty of producing these disorders, as also the members of the deputation of Jews sent to the Shereefian Court by their brethren of Demnat.

The Sultan and His Majesty's Ministers are well aware that it is always my anxious desire that the authority of the Sultan should be upheld, but I will not conceal my surprise that you should have accepted as veracious the statements made by the Governor of Demnat and by those who are evidently in league with him, or who have been bribed to give evidence in favour of this tyrannical and unjust officer.

I rejected at once the statement made by the Governor and his accomplices as unworthy of belief, when I observed that it was declared the Jews had stones and wounded the Mahommedans, when the gracious and benevolent Decree of His Shereefian Majesty was read to them. Can any honourable and intelligent person, who knows the country, and especially the degraded and subservient state of the Jews in the interior, believe that they would venture to publicly stone the Mussulmans.

Such evidence suffices to stamp the statement of the Governor and his accomplices as false and unworthy of credence. No man of intelligence knowing the antecedents of the Governor of Demnat and having a knowledge of this country would place the slightest credence in such a preposterous declaration.

I have therefore to request that you state this clearly to His Shereefian Majesty and add that I trust His Majesty, in his wisdom and clemency, will not give orders to arrest or punish any Jews in Demnat or the members of the deputation at Fez, but that His Majesty will cause a fresh and impartial inquiry to be made into the conduct of this Governor, as also into the grave outrage committed by the soldiers and dependents of the said Governor on the Agent of the British merchant at Daralbaida, and the pillage of British property, of which His Shereefian Majesty will no doubt ere this have received a full account from the letter I addressed Hadj Mohamed Torres, which, I am informed, was transmitted to the Shereefian Court. For this latter outrage I now repeat my demand for reparation.

* Evidence.

With the view of obtaining further and more precise information through a party who may be unbiased, and who will have no cause for apprehension of any act of vengeance or tyranny on the part of the Governor of Demnat, or be open to bribery and corruption, I propose to dispatch Cid Bubeke-el-Khanjowy to Demnat with instructions to collect information regarding the conduct of the Governor, and to report to me the result. I expect, of course, it will be difficult for him to obtain declarations from any one who may fear the vengeance of the Governor, but he will no doubt be able to throw some light upon this affair, more than is now possessed.

It will be a source of satisfaction to me and a proof of His Shereefian Majesty's desire that justice should be done in this matter if a letter is addressed by His Majesty's order to Cid Bubeke directing him to make an officious inquiry, and to report the result confidentially to the Shereefian Court. If Cid Bubeke is unable to ascertain the truth I shall be disposed, after consulting with Her Majesty's Government, to dispatch an English officer to Demnat to investigate this affair.

In conclusion, I have to repeat that my conviction is that the Governor of Demnat is a cruel tyrant and has shamefully treated His Majesty's unfortunate and helpless Jewish subjects, that the evidence offered is unworthy of credence, and that the said Governor has caused to be committed by his dependents an outrage upon the agent of a British subject.

I appeal to the magnanimity and benevolence of His Shereefian Majesty on behalf of the poor Jews; I appeal to the spirit of justice which animates His Majesty for reparation for the outrage upon the agent of a British subject.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 17.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 56.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 10, 1885.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith copies of correspondence, as marked in the margin,* upon the subject of the claim of Mr. M. de J. Levy, arising out of the occupation of his property at Gabes by the French military authorities.

It will be seen, upon reference to Mr. Reade's despatch No. 7 of the 27th February, 1884, copy of which will be found in the Confidential North Africa print regularly forwarded to your Excellency in sections, that it was settled that Mr. Levy's claim was to be referred to Arbitrators selected by the interested parties, but that this arrangement has not hitherto been carried out.

I have to request your Excellency to call the attention of the French Government to this case, and to urge them to take steps to insure its immediate settlement by arbitration, as agreed upon in the early part of last year.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 18.

Sir J. Pauncefote to Mr. M. de J. Levy.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 12, 1885.

WITH reference to your letter of the 5th instant, I am directed by Earl Granville to inform you that Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris has been requested to call the attention of the French Government to the circumstances of your claim against the French military authorities at Tunis on account of the occupation by them of your property at Gabes, and to urge that steps may be taken to insure its immediate settlement by arbitration, as agreed upon in the early part of last year.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

* See Part IX, Nos. 70, 72, and 73, and note, Nos. 1 and 13.

No. 19.

The Law Officers of the Crown and Dr. Deane to Earl Granville.—(Received January 20.)

My Lord,

Royal Courts of Justice, January 19, 1885.

WE are honoured with your Lordship's commands signified in Sir J. Pauncefote's letter of the 20th ultimo, stating that he was to transmit to us a despatch from Sir J. D. Hay of the 16th November, 1884, relating to a complaint made by the Government of Morocco to Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, respecting the publication of certain newspapers issued at Tangier, of which the editors are British subjects, of articles containing offensive reflections upon the Moorish Government, and upon the foreign Representatives accredited to the Sultan's Court.

That it would be seen that Her Majesty's Minister requests instructions for his guidance in the event of the continuance of the practice of which the Moorish Government complain, and that he asked, specifically, to be informed whether the Moorish Government was at liberty to forbid the publication of a newspaper which had given just grounds for offence.

That Sir J. Pauncefote was, further, to annex a draft of the reply which your Lordship proposed, with our concurrence, to return to the inquiries made by Sir J. D. Hay.

That a copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and Morocco of the 9th December, 1856, was inclosed, but that it did not appear to contain any clause which touches upon the present question. That copies of previous Law Officers' Reports relating to cases of a similar character were also inclosed, together with a short Memorandum drawn up by the Librarian of the Foreign Office, bearing upon the subject.

That Sir J. Pauncefote was to request that we would inform your Lordship whether we concurred in the terms of the proposed instruction to Sir J. D. Hay.

In obedience to your Lordship's commands, we have the honour to report—

That we concur generally in the terms of the proposed draft instructions to Sir J. D. Hay, but we suggest that for the paragraph (A), commencing on p. 4, the following may be substituted:—

"The question you have raised as to suppressing or interfering with the publication of the journals in question, depends on the law of Morocco, which, in such respects, the Moorish Government are entitled to enforce."

We have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY JAMES
FARRER HERSCHELL.
J. PARKER DEANE.

No. 20.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received January 21.)

(No. 7.)

My Lord,

Tangier, January 14, 1885.

I INCLOSE a telegram which has been published in English papers, and I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Jews have not asked for the protection of M. Ordega, nor is there any apprehension of a massacre of the Jews in this town.

The telegram was, I believe, sent by Mr. Cohen, the editor of the "Réveil du Maroc," who acts under the direction of M. Ordega in such matters.

The Jewish deputation from Demnat lately applied to M. Ordega to use his good offices with the Sultan on their behalf, and I understand M. Ordega referred to the Government at Paris for instructions before he addressed a note to the Moorish Government on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 20.

Telegram, dated Tangier, January 8, 1885.

THE Jews have demanded the protection of the French Minister, M. Ordega, in view of the threats to which they are subjected by the Moors, who announce a

general massacre of Jews. The French Minister has offered to intercede in their favour in order that the authorities may take measures to hinder any aggression on the part of the mob.

No. 21.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received January 21.)

(No. 8.)

My Lord,

Tangier, January 14, 1885.

WITH reference to Mr. White's despatch No. 94 of the 26th September last, regarding the rebellion in Soos, I am informed that the Sultan will proceed shortly to Morocco, and after remaining a few weeks at that city, His Majesty will march with an army to Soos to chastise the rebellious tribes in that country.

The insurrection in Soos districts was fomented by an emissary sent by Hadj Abdes Salam, the Shercef of Wazan, at the instigation of M. Ordega last year, when an attempt was made to create a rebellion in the northern provinces with the view of bringing forward Hadj Abdes Salam as a pretender to the throne.

One of the emissaries of the Shercef, named Khamleesh, remained with the powerful Chief of Ait Amram, in Soos, Cid Houssein el Hashem, for three months, and was in constant communication with the French Consul in Mogador.

On referring to this subject in conversation with my Spanish and Italian colleagues, they severally assured me they have proofs that M. Ordega had conspired with the Shercef of Wazan to foment the rebellion in Soos.

The disturbed state of that country has no doubt prevented the Sultan from carrying out his intention, as advised by Her Majesty's Government, of opening a port on the Soos coast.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY

No. 22.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 24.)

(No. 49.)

My Lord,

Paris, January 23, 1885.

I HAD yesterday the honour to receive the despatch No. 56 of the 19th instant, in which your Lordship directs me to urge the French Government to take steps to insure the immediate settlement, by arbitration, of Mr. Levy's claim for indemnity for land belonging to him, which has been occupied by the French military authorities at Gabes.

I inclose a copy of a note which I have addressed in consequence to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 22

Viscount Lyons to M. Ferry.

Paris, January 23, 1885.

M le Président du Conseil,

IN the month of February 1884 it was settled by Baron d'Estournelles, who was at the time in charge of the French Residency in Tunis, and Mr. Reade, Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at that place, that the claim of Mr. Levy, of London, to be indemnified for land belonging to him, which had been occupied by the French military authorities at Gabes, should be referred to arbitrators selected by the interested parties.

Steps, in pursuance of this arrangement, were taken by both parties in the course of the past year; but the affair was not settled, and in the months of November and December last a correspondence on the subject of the delay took place between Mr. Reade and M. Cambon, the French Resident at Tunis.

Mr. Levy has represented to Earl Granville that his case has been pending for several years, and that the delay in settling it causes him great loss and inconvenience; and he informs his Lordship that the matter has been referred by the French military authorities in Tunis to the Minister of War at Paris.

In this state of things I have the honour, in obedience to instructions from Lord Granville, to direct your Excellency's attention to the case, and earnestly to ask the French Government to take measures to insure its being immediately settled by arbitration, in conformity with the agreement made in February last, to which I have referred at the beginning of the present note.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

No. 23.

Earl Granville to Dr. Arpa

(No. 3.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 27, 1885.

I HAVE received Mr. Reade's despatch No. 52 of the 26th ultimo, inclosing copies of further correspondence between him and M. Cambon relative to the right claimed by the Tunisian Government to inspect parcels addressed to the foreign Representatives in Tunis.

Article III. of the Convention between Great Britain and Tunis, of 1875, provides that "No prohibition or tax shall be put upon the provisions, furniture, or any other articles which may come to the said Agent and Consul-General, Consuls, or Vice-Consuls, for their own use, and for the use of their families, upon their delivering to the officer of the Customs a certificate under their hand, specifying the number of articles which they shall require to be passed on that ground, but this privilege shall only be accorded to Consular Officers who are not engaged in trade."

I have to point out to you that the Article does not state that under no circumstances shall parcels to their address be inspected at the custom-house. It is true that it may be said to be implied, and, so long as this privilege was not abused, the Tunisian Government would appear to have been in the habit of allowing such packages to pass without inspection, but I gather from Mr. Reade's despatches that abuses have undoubtedly been committed.

In this country packages addressed to foreign Representatives are opened at the custom-house in the presence of the Agent of the Minister, or, at his special request, are conveyed to his own house, and opened there in his presence, or that of any person appointed by him.

I may mention that some years ago Mr. Graham, when in charge of the British Legation at Guatemala, complained that certain packages containing articles for his own use had been opened at the custom-house. In reply, he was informed that he had no legal ground for complaint, inasmuch as articles intended for the use of foreign Ministers in this country were subject to examination. I do not think, therefore, that there would be any advantage in pursuing the matter further.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 24.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 4.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 27, 1885.

I HAVE had under my consideration your despatch No. 104 of the 16th November last, in which you request instructions as to the course you should pursue in the matter of a complaint which has been made to you by the Moorish Government with regard to a practice adopted by certain British subjects, who are editors of newspapers issued at Tazier, of publishing articles containing offensive reflections upon the Sultan's Government, as well as attacks upon foreign Representatives in that capital.

I have, in reply, to acquaint you that the matter does not appear to his Lordship to be one in which you should take any direct action. It is competent to the Moorish Government either to prohibit absolutely the publication of any newspaper in Morocco by a British subject, or to authorize it on any conditions it pleases which are not contrary to the Treaty engagements of Morocco with this country.

There is no objection to your conveying, at the request of the Moorish Government,

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a warning to the editors of the consequences to which they will render themselves liable if they disregard the complaint which has been made to you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 25

Dr. Mansfield to Earl Granville.—(Received January 28.)

My Lord,

Tunis, January 10, 1885.
I HAVE the honour to forward, at the request of my co-nationals, to your Lordship, a copy of a Memorial which was presented by the Anglo-Maltese colony to Her Majesty's Representative in this town, Mr. Reade, on the occasion of that gentleman's departure for England on leave of absence. I take the liberty of respectfully approaching your Lordship with a copy of that document, and trust I will be pardoned for submitting it to your Lordship's favourable consideration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. T. MANSFIELD, M.D.,
Deputy of the Anglo-Maltese Colony in Tunis.

Inclosure in No. 25

The Anglo-Maltese Colony at Tunis to Mr. Reade.

(Translation)

Most Illustrious Signor Agent and Consul-General,

It is with the utmost stress that the Undersigned have arrived at the knowledge that your Excellency has requested and obtained from the Foreign Office the permission to absent yourself from this country for a few months for the sake of your health.

The uprightness, energy, and honesty with which your Excellency has protected our interests cannot but render such an arrangement most grievous, not only to us, your clients (l' "amministrati"), but also to all those who have had the honour of approaching your Excellency.

The care displayed in the protection of our privileges, the kindness with which your Excellency has always advised us, and the eagerness with which you have always striven to promote our commerce, are for us so many proofs (l' "arra—tit", "earnest-money") of the firmness of character, experience, and goodness of heart of your Excellency.

In the hope that the valuable health of your Excellency may be restored in a few days, we pray you to consider seriously that our colony will be during your absence like a ship without a helm, like a regiment without a captain, like a family without a father, and we therefore trust most fervently that your Excellency's goodness of heart will cause you to prolong as little as possible your absence from your humble and faithful friends.

The Undersigned trust that your Excellency may have a prosperous voyage, a complete recovery of your health and a fortunate and speedy return to us, and pray you also to remember us all to the most noble Mrs. Reade, your worthy spouse and our beloved Consulesse, and to assure her that her absence and that of your noble family has left a vast gap in the circle of all those who had the honour to know, and especially of us, British subjects.

(Signatures follow.)

Tunis, January 7, 1885.

No. 26

Dr. Arpa to Earl Granville.—(Received January 28.)

(No. 2.)

My Lord,

Tunis, January 20, 1885.
WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch to Mr. Reade No. 1 of the 1st instant, on the subject of the murder of Ernesto Pace, committed at Sfax, I have the honour to say that Mr. Reade had, on the 20th December last, informed Mr. Vice-Consul Leonardi that orders had been given by the Tunisian Government to the Vice-Governor of Sfax to hold an inquiry instructing him to inform deceased's father that he should take the

initiative in the matter by appearing before the Vice-Governor, and pointing out the person he charged with the murder of his late son.

Mr. Leonardi, however, writing on the 31st instant, states that though, as instructed, Giuseppe Pace appeared before the Halifa of Sfax, he was informed by him that he had received no instructions to hold any inquiry.

I did not fail to bring the matter to M. Cambon's notice, and he informed me that the delay in giving the instruction to the new Halifa was caused by this official, whose appointment had to be published in the "Journal Officiel" of the 13th instant, not having yet taken possession of his post.

It is now to be hoped that this long-pending matter will be brought to a speedy solution.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. ARPA.

No. 27.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received January 28.)

(No. 10.)

My Lord,

Tangier, January 22, 1885

WITH reference to the Memorandum regarding claims of British subjects, which I transmitted to Mr. Under Secretary Lister in a letter dated the 18th October of last year, and to your Lordship's despatch No. 43 of the 31st October, instructing me to make a strong representation to the Moorish Government on the subject of the protracted delay which has taken place in the settlement of these claims, I have the honour to transmit the translation of a letter addressed to me by the Acting Minister, Hadj Mohammed Torres, on this subject, and further, an extract of a letter addressed to me by Cid Mohammed Bargash from Rabat on the 11th instant on the same subject.

Your Lordship will observe that Hadj Mohammed Torres informs me that the claims upon persons who have died, and who have left no property, will be treated as claims upon insolvents.

In a passage of this letter Hadj Mohammed Torres says that debtors who are proved to be insolvent will be imprisoned. In a late instruction given by me to Vice-Consul Hunter at Daralghada, directing him, in pursuance of your Lordship's instructions, to inquire, in concert with the competent Moorish authorities, into all claims of British subjects at that port, I direct that debtors who are proved to be insolvent should not be reimprisoned. I have the honour to request that your Lordship inform me whether I can make known to the Moorish Government that I shall not require that other Moorish subjects besides those residing at Daralghada owing money to British subjects, who are legally proved to be insolvent should remain in prison.

According to the Mohammedan law, an insolvent debtor set at liberty can again be prosecuted by his creditor for the debt if the latter is able to prove, even after a lapse of years, that the debtor has become solvent.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY

Inclosure 1 in No 27.

Hadj Mohammed Torres to Sir J. Drummond Hay

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

Rabat II, 1 (January 18, 1885)

WE inform you that we have communicated to His Sherrefian Majesty all that you have written and stated to us by word of mouth regarding the repeated complaints of British merchants on account of the delay in the settlement of debts and claims. We also made known to His Majesty the instructions you received from the British Minister for Foreign Affairs concerning this delay.

We now inform you that we have received the Royal reply, which we are directed to communicate to you.

Know, oh, our friend, that orders were issued by His Sherrefian Majesty to the authorities to take energetic steps for the settlement of pending claims at Mogador, Haha, and Shiedma, both commercial and on account of robberies, &c.

no doubt, your Consul at Mogador has acquainted you, and renewed orders have been given to the authorities.

As regards debts, the amounts noted in the list of claims transmitted to the Court, equal to 50,370 dollars, have been admitted, which claims date from and after the year 1292. We have repeatedly informed you that documents bearing dates previous to 1292 would not be admitted, as was agreed upon in regard to the debts due to foreign subjects which have been settled or are in course of settlement.

There has already arrived at Tangier, on account of the documents which have been admitted, 5,824 dollars, and 1,000 dollars are being now remitted. There are also acquittances for 9,256 dollars, which have been given by merchants who have settled directly with their debtors.

The Jews of Rabat owe 805 dollars, and the Jews of Salée owe 2,638 dollars. These Jews were sent by the Sultan, at your request, from prison at Mequinez to Dar Jilica in order that they might be confronted with the merchant Lapeen, that justice might be done, and nothing more is to be said regarding them.

As to the debts of protected persons who are Moorish subjects, amounting to 2,633 dollars, their Governor, Wuld Rachid, declares that they are in course of settlement through their agents.

As to the debtors who are unknown regarding whom the Governors have made inquiry but have obtained no result, whose debts are 761 dollars, we transmit to you a list of their names and the names of their creditors, and when the latter show where they reside the Government will order search to be made for them until they are found and pay their debts if they have means of payment. But those who are insolvent are many, and they are in prison until they prove their insolvency, when they must be set at liberty with your consent. The total amount owing by insolvents and by people who have died, concerning whose estates inquiry is still being made, is 18,211 dollars. If it shall appear that those who have died left no property, they will be classed with the insolvents.

There will thus remain from the total amount of the debts 9,142 dollars, and the Governors are making every effort to recover this amount, and those who prove to be insolvent will be imprisoned, and those who are dead will be placed in the list of insolvents.

A number of Secretaries still remain with the Governors to press for payment.

We request that you will examine into this statement, for His Sheressian Majesty will be displeased if it should appear to be contrary to his wishes, which are that the friendship of the two Governments may be maintained.

Friendship and peace!

(Signed)

MOHAMMED BEN EL ABBY EL TORRES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 27.

Cid Mohammed Bargash to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

Rabat (January 11, 1885).

WITH regard to the claims of your merchants and persons under protection, you are aware that you remarked that British subjects should be placed on as favourable a footing as other foreign subjects. The greatest attention has been paid to your representation.

Decided orders have been given and payments have been exacted everywhere, and the Governors are collecting them gradually, as has happened with the claims of other foreign subjects without the slightest difference.

As to the 1,000 dollars claimed by the merchant Mateos, it will be delivered to you by Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres.

No. 28.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 82.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 28, 1885.

I APPROVE the note which your Excellency addressed to the French Government urging them to take steps to insure the immediate settlement by arbitration of Mr. Levy's claim for compensation for land belonging to him which has been occupied by the French military authorities at Gabes, copy of which was inclosed in your Excellency's despatch No. 49 of the 23rd instant.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

No. 29.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 3.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 29, 1885.

HER Majesty's Government entirely approve the steps which you have taken on behalf of the Jews of Demnat, as reported in your despatch No. 6 of the 10th instant.

I inclose a copy of a communication which I have addressed to the Anglo-Jewish Association on the subject.*

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

No. 30.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Baron H. de Worms.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 30, 1885.

WITH reference to Mr. Lister's letter of the 31st ultimo, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you herewith an extract from a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister in Morocco, reporting the steps which he has taken on behalf of the Jews of Demnat.

I am to add that Sir J. D. Hay has considered it his duty to inform me that the Jews in Morocco, especially those who dwell at the capitals of Fes and Mequinez, who receive protection from some of the foreign Representatives, have, by their various practices, produced the most intense feeling of hatred on the part of the Mohammedan population towards their race, and that it is quite possible that the most serious consequences may ensue.

It is even said that on several occasions false claims for debts to a large amount, drawn up through bribery by Mohammedan notaries against wealthy Mohammedans, have been brought forward.

Sir J. D. Hay has frequently requested the Jewish Elders of Tangier to warn their brethren against these malpractices, and he is of the opinion, in which Lord Granville concurs, that it might have a beneficial effect if the Anglo-Jewish Association were to warn those of the Jewish Elders of Morocco, with whom they may be in communication, of the great danger, both as regards life and property, to which the Jews of Morocco may at any time be exposed if a check is not put upon the practices above alluded to.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

JULIAN POUNCEFOTE.

No. 31.

Dr. Arpa to Earl Granville.—(Received January 30.)

(No. 3.)

My Lord,

Tunis, January 26, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 2 of the 20th instant, on the subject of the murder of Ernesto Pace, committed at Sfax, I have the honour to inclose herewith

* No. 30.

+ No. 16.

copy of a French translation of the written instructions communicated by M. Cambon to this office, and forwarded by the Tunisian Prime Minister to the Governor of Sfax, requesting him to authorize the Khalifa of that place to hold a judicial inquiry ("information judiciaire") into the circumstances of the case, with the object of discovering the authors of the murder.

I am, &c.
(Signed) F. ARPA.

Inclosure in No. 31

The Tunisian Prime Minister to the Governor of Sfax.

JE vous transmets ci-joint copie d'une requête formée par le Sieur Giuseppe Puer, qui accuse un certain nombre d'habitants de Sfax du meurtre de son fils Ernesto. Je vous invite à charger votre Khalifa d'ouvrir une information judiciaire à l'effet de découvrir les auteurs de cet assassinat. M. Leonardi, Agent Consulaire d'Angleterre à Sfax, est autorisé à assister aux diverses opérations de cette information, et le Khalifa devra lui tenir au courant de ses recherches et d'interroger les témoins qu'en sa présence.

Également, je vous recommande de le faire connaître au Khalifa que la plainte de Giuseppe Puer est purement criminelle, qu'il ne s'agit ni d'un crime politique, ni d'un crime de sang, et qu'il n'y a rien à voir avec les événements de 1871. Les déclarations de Giuseppe Puer, qui sont purement criminelles, ne doivent pas être prises en considération par le Khalifa, et il doit se borner à faire une enquête sur les faits qui lui sont présentés.

Vous me ferez parvenir les procès-verbaux de l'enquête, avec les conclusions du Khalifa de Sfax, dès qu'elle sera close.

No. 32.

Karl Granville to Dr. Arpa

(No. 4.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 31, 1885.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 2 of the 20th instant, I have to express to you my satisfaction at the prospect of a definitive commencement of the inquiry into the circumstances connected with the murder of Mr. Ernesto Puer, and I have to request you to continue to watch the progress of the inquiry.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 33.

Sir J. Poncefote to Baron H. de Worms

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 31, 1885.

WITH reference to my letter of the 20th instant, I am directed by Earl Granville to inform you, with reference to a telegram lately published in the English newspapers to the effect that the Jews at Tangier had demanded the protection of the French Minister, M. Orlega, in view of the threats to which they were subjected by the Moors, that Her Majesty's Minister in Morocco contradicts this report, and explains that there is not any apprehension of a massacre of the Jews in the town of Tangier. He adds that the Jewish deputation from Demnat lately applied to M. Orlega to use his good offices with the Sultan on their behalf, and that he understands that M. Orlega referred to his Government for instructions on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PANCEFOTE.

No. 34.

Baron H. de Worms to Sir J. Pancefote.—(Received February 2.)

Sir,

4, Old Burlington Street, W., January 30, 1885.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, transmitting an extract from a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister in Morocco, reporting the steps which he has taken on behalf of the Jews of Demnat.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) H. DE WORMS.

No. 35.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received February 3.)

(No. 11.)

My Lord,

Tangier, January 27, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 3 of the 20th instant, transmitting a copy of a letter from Messrs. Bowker and Co., complaining of the delays which have occurred in the settlement of the claims of Mr. James Christie against the Moors for damages done to a garden owned by Mr. James Christie in 1873, and requesting me to forward to your Lordship with a Report upon Messrs. Bowker's complaint.

In the year 1873, the Jews of Tangier, under the authority of their Governor, who was then the Governor of Mogador, and of the Governor of Tangier, having entered the town, they destroyed the hedges, vegetable gardens, &c., of the gardens.

These gardens were waste lands of sand belonging to the Government, which various Europeans and other protected persons in previous years had taken possession of, and had hedged and cultivated for vegetables, tapping the public aqueduct in order to obtain water which is scarce. The authorities, who at present find presents from these persons, do not appear to have taken any steps to defend them, or to protect against their rights of possession, especially as the cultivation of vegetables was generally useful to the townspeople.

I visited Mogador in 1875 and saw the gardens and claims for damages were then presented to me by Messrs. Bowker.

On the 10th March, 1870, I addressed a note to Cid Mohammed Bargash, pointing out to him the loss of his subjects' property, and to the Governor of Tangier, requesting that the Governor should be appointed to assess the damages, and that the report should be forwarded to me.

I then received a written reply from Cid Mohammed Bargash, but I remember having received repeated verbal assurances that the matter had been submitted for the consideration of the Sultan.

On the 26th June, 1877, I addressed a note to Cid Mohammed Bargash informing him that I had learnt that an estimate of the damages had been made by officers appointed for that purpose by order of the Sultan, but that no compensation had yet been offered to the claimants. I mentioned that I had heard the Sultan had been informed that smuggling was carried on in these gardens, and that the supply of water for the town was taken from the public aqueduct by the occupiers of the gardens without the permission of the Governor. I suggested that the Governor of Tangier should inquire into these statements, and that, if the estimate made was not considered a fair one, a fresh estimate should be effected.

Cid Mohammed Bargash did not send any written reply, but verbal assurances were repeatedly given to me that the matter had been submitted to the Sultan, and when the matter rested, but I was given to understand that the estimate which had been made was unfair and excessive, brought about through bribery of the officers appointed to make the estimate, which, I understand, is true.

On the 16th March, 1878, having heard nothing further from Cid Mohammed Bargash, I addressed a letter to the Vizier, Cid Musa Ben Ahmed, of which I transmit a translation, requiring that a fresh and fair estimate of the damages should be made in concert with the Consular officers who were interested in the matter.

On the 27th May, 1878, I received a reply from the Vizier, of which I transmit a translation, informing me that orders had been sent by the Sultan that a fresh estimate should be made of the losses sustained by the occupiers of the gardens.

About this time famine came on in the southern provinces of Morocco, and the Moorish Government declined to give further attention to claims for which the payment was to be levied on the tribes until the population should recover from their distress, and be in a more prosperous state.

In 1882, when I was at the Moorish Court, I again pressed amongst the general claims of British subjects that the garden claims should be settled, and I received assurances that they would be arranged, but that the estimate of 1876 must be set aside as excessive.

On the 18th June, 1884, I addressed a note to the Acting Minister, Hadj Mohammed Torres, of which I transmit a translation, stating that I understood M. Bolelli, an Italian subject at Mogador, had received 600 dollars on account of damages done to his garden in 1878, and that I required that similar claims of British subjects should be settled in the same manner.

On the 1st August, 1884, I received from the Sultan's Secretary, Cid Mohammed Ben Suleiman, an extract from a letter received from the Sultan, in which His Majesty said that, "as to the claims of merchants for damages done to their gardens at Mogador, orders had been given to the Governor and Administrators of Revenue to make a fresh estimate, and the Governor of Ifraha would be ordered to pay it."

On the 12th December I addressed another note to Hadj Mohammed Torres informing him that the new estimate made of the damages was only one-fourth of the original estimate, and was rejected with good grounds by British subjects.

On the 22nd instant I addressed Cid Mohammed Bargash a note on the subject of the general claims of British subjects. I transmit a translation of the paragraph in that letter in which I demand that the claims of British subjects for damages done to their gardens should be placed on the same footing as the claims of the Italian subject.

I may here remark that an arrangement regarding the claim of M. Bolelli was effected with Cid Mohammed Bargash by the Italian Minister and Admiral, when the Italian squadron was sent to Tangier to enforce the settlement of all claims of persons under Italian protection.

I further transmit copies of despatches and letters I addressed to Her Majesty's Consul at Mogador upon this subject in the years 1883 and 1884. I do not send copies of much other correspondence received from Mr. Consul Payton, as it does not relate to the question, but I will do so if required.

I transmit the copy of a letter addressed to me by the United States' Consul-General, Colonel Mathews, in reply to the query I had put to him regarding the alleged payment of similar claims of persons under United States' protection. Colonel Mathews declares that no such payment has been received, and this is confirmed by Hadj Mohammed Torres.

The perusal of the correspondence and the information I have afforded will, I trust, satisfy your Lordship that I have done all in my power to obtain a settlement of these long-pending claims.

The difficulty in bringing about this result has proceeded from the usual procrastination and apathy of this Government. It must be admitted, however, that the claims are for damages done to gardens rightfully the property of the Sultan, and that their fertility was dependent on the water wrongfully abstracted from the supply of the town from the Government aqueduct, and that when after a protracted negotiation I had obtained from the Sultan's order for the assessment of the damages, the occupiers of these gardens managed to induce Moorish officials charged with drawing up the estimate to make inordinate charges. Those who know this country, and the value of plots of sand, would be astonished to find that damages for destruction of hedges, &c., without buildings, could be assessed at 1,761 dollars, and 1,190 dollars, &c., when gardens with orange trees hardly realize such prices. It is fact a one had given good grounds for the Sultan to reject the original estimate.

The money for the claim of the Italian subject though it has been very recently paid into the Italian Legation has not yet, as I am assured by M. Scovasso, been delivered to the claimant.

Whether the original estimate of the Italian claim was 600 dollars or not, your Lordship will observe that I have demanded, in energetic language, that the claims of British subjects on account of damages done to gardens should be placed on as favourable a footing as the claim of the Italian subject, and I trust your Lordship will approve of my having done so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 35.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Vizir Cid Musa.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

Tangier, March 18, 1876.

THE claims on account of the destruction of the hedges, &c., of the gardens of foreign subjects at Mogador by the tribes have not yet been settled, though orders had been sent by the Sultan to that effect some time ago.

I suggest that an Administrator of Revenue of Mogador should be directed to act in concert with Her Majesty's Consul to inquire what was the value of the damages done, that no exaggerated pretensions be put forward, as may have been done before, and that an inquiry be made also whether any evil has been caused to the townspeople by the use of the aqueduct, that each proprietor of a garden—Moor, Christian, or Jew—pay a monthly sum for use of water, and that this money be employed for paying a superintendent of the aqueduct to distribute water, and for guards to prevent irregularities, that when water is scarce it be not used for gardens, but as the latter provide vegetables for the townspeople, who would otherwise have no vegetables for consumption, that the water which is not required be allowed for the irrigation of each garden in turn.

That the Administrator of Revenue be directed to make a Report on the claims and on the aqueduct, and that this be submitted to the Sultan.

If this is not done the matter will be presented in a different form, as these are claimants of different nations.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 35.

Vizir Cid Musa Ben Ahmed to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

Jumad 1, 12, 1295 (May 1878).

WE received your letter relative to the order sent to the Administrators of Customs to estimate the losses occasioned to the proprietors of gardens at Mogador by the Ifraha people. You inform us that those orders had not been carried into execution, and you request that orders should again be given to cause the valuation to be effected, so that what is right and proper should be given as compensation.

You suggest that a person be appointed to look after the aqueduct which enters Mogador, and that it be kept in repair; that when there is an abundance of water a portion be allowed by turns to the owners of gardens for irrigation, as you say that the vegetables are beneficial to the inhabitants. You recommend that an inquiry be previously instituted into these suggestions.

We made known your propositions to our Lord the Sultan, and His Majesty has sent his Royal order to the Administrators, repeating the order that they assess the losses in the aforesaid gardens, and that they report the result, so that His Majesty may then decide what is to be done in the matter.

With regard to the aqueduct, the revered ancestor of His Majesty brought the water for the benefit of the religious establishments in the town, and for the population in general, and he granted any excess of water to the gardens of Bab Dukala, but the gardens adjoining the aqueduct are gardens which have been formed without the sanction of the Government, in order that the water of the aqueduct may be robbed, thus interfering with the object for which the water was brought, besides other illicit purposes which it is unnecessary for me to expose to you now; and the last Sultan had on that account intended to destroy those gardens, but it was decided not to carry this intention into execution, so as not to give rise to dissatisfaction.

We have let you know the real state of the case, so that a door may be closed to all pretensions of this character, for our Lord cannot and will not admit them in any way. Moreover, those merchants who are in those gardens do not require the water of the aqueduct for irrigation, as they have other means of getting water for their gardens.

(Signed) MUSA BEN AHMED.

Inclosure 3 in No. 35.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Hadj Mohammed Torres.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.)

Tangier, June 12, 1884.

I HAVE in past years on several occasions brought under the notice of the Moorish Government the claims of British subjects on account of the destruction of their gardens in 1874 by the neighbouring tribes, and I am now informed that orders have been sent by the Sultan that the Italian subject, M. Bolelli, be paid 600 dollars, the amount claimed by him, for the destruction of his property.

Under these circumstances, I have to request that the similar claims of British subjects for the destruction of their gardens near Mogador by the tribes be also paid. The assessment, as noted in the enclosed document, was made at the time by the authorities, by the Sultan's orders.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY

Inclosure 4 in No. 35.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Cid Mohammed Baryash.

(Translation.)
(Extract.)

January 22, 1885.

I ENCLOSE, for your information, copy of a letter I addressed Hadj Mohammed Torres, and I draw your especial attention to the last paragraph, in the subject of the claims for damages done to the gardens of British subjects at Mogador eleven years ago, and I have to declare that I insist upon the claims of British subjects in this respect being placed on an equal footing with a similar claim of the Italian subject.

It was your Excellency who arranged that 600 dollars should be paid to M. Bolelli, which amount has already been lodged at the Italian Consulate. I insist that, if this was the amount of the original estimate, the damage done to the gardens of British subjects be paid for also according to the original estimate. If a reduction was made, then I shall require that only a proportional deduction be made on the original estimate of the damage done to the gardens of British subjects.

I have received a late letter from Her Majesty's Government requiring the immediate settlement of these claims upon the same terms as those of subjects of the most favoured nation.

I request you to give me a clear reply to this letter, and to take immediate steps that British subjects receive the same compensation as the Italian subject, and to communicate this letter to the Sheressian Court.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 5 in No. 35.

Mr. White to Consul Payton.

Sir,

Tangier, November 13, 1882.

WITH reference to the correspondence which has taken place in former years on the subject of the claims of British subjects on account of the gardens at Mogador plundered by the people of Haha in 1874, I am directed by Sir John Drummond Hay to request you to inquire of the British claimants whether they are in possession of any deeds or documents to prove their title to the gardens on account of which they have put forward claims.

Upon receipt of these documents, if they exist you are requested to add them to other lists of British subjects against people in Haha that are still pending and to press them upon the attention of the Sultan's Commissioner, referring him to the estimates made by the Sultan's orders of the damage done to the gardens.

The claim of Mr. Curtis has been transferred to Messrs. Bowker and Co., of Manchester, but you can call upon Mr. Curtis to produce the title-deeds if he has any.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HORACE P. WHITE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 35.

Mr. White to Consul Payton.

Dear Mr. Payton,

Tangier, November 13, 1882.

WITH reference to my despatch of to-day regarding the claims for pillage and destruction of gardens at Mogador by Haha people, I may explain to you that I should properly have written it in June last, but it must have slipped my memory, for I see no trace of my having done so.

The question was then revived by Messrs. R. C. Bowker and Co., of Manchester, in a letter to me, and I told them in reply that you would receive instruction to inquire into the matter and call for title-deeds, and then to put forward the claim.

Messrs. Bowker have now written to me stating that they are without further tidings either from me or from you of the claim. I write to them to-day saying that I, and not you, are at fault, and explaining my omission.

As Mr. Curtis will be, I presume, back in Mogador shortly from his peregrination in Soos, will you kindly ascertain from him whether he has any title-deeds to prove his right to the property?

From a letter of Cid Moosa, addressed to Sir John Drummond Hay some years since, I doubt whether any of the claimants can show any title.

Messrs. Bowker are anxious to have some information regarding this claim within a month, will you therefore kindly give them the earliest intimation you may be able as to how the matter stands?

Yours, &c.

(Signed) HORACE P. WHITE

Inclosure 7 in No. 35.

Mr. White to Consul Payton.

Sir,

Tangier, January 10, 1884.

I AM directed by Sir John Drummond Hay to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, marked semi-official, stating that you had heard that a collection is about to be made in the district of Haha of an amount claimed by M. Bolelli for destruction of a garden belonging to him by the Haha insurgents in 1874.

I am to state that if the amount claimed on this account by M. Bolelli is paid, you should have no claim requiring payment in view of the losses similarly sustained by Messrs. Grace, D. A. Cohen, and J. Curtis.

The claim of Mr. Curtis was, I understand, transferred to Mr. R. C. Bowker, of Manchester, and that of Mr. Cohen to Messrs. Carter, of London.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HORACE P. WHITE

Inclosure 8 in No. 35.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Consul Payton.

My dear Sir,

Tangier, July 24, 1884.

A LETTER from the Sultan has been communicated to me by one of his Secretaries, Cid Mohamed Ben Solomon, in which His Majesty says that orders have been given to the Governor of Mogador and the Ameen Breesha to inquire into the claims of British and other foreign subjects for the gardens that were destroyed, and that there should be an evaluation made of the losses, as it is considered that that which had been formerly presented was too high, that on arriving at a settlement the Governor of Mogador will be directed to pay the amount due.

I mentioned to the Secretary that I understood M. Bolelli was about to be paid 600 dollars on account of his loss in the garden belonging to him. The Secretary replied that M. Bolelli had claims to a large amount, and that a large reduction was effected, and in consideration of such reduction it was agreed to pay the 600 dollars.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY

Inclosure 9 in No. 35.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Consul Payton.

Dear Sir,

Tangier, December 13, 1884.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 2nd instant, on the subject of the claims of British subjects about destruction of gardens, I have addressed a note to Hadj Mohammed Torres informing him that British subjects decline to accept the compensation offered in the last valuation, and claim that of 1876. I had a long conversation with Hadj Mohammed Torres regarding these claims. He observed that though the Commissioner had fixed the value of the losses sustained, and that a deduction was made by Kadi, the Sultan had refused to accept the valuation, as excessive. He observed, "What kind of gardens were there that without buildings, at any rate of any consequence, the damage done should be placed at 1,751 dollars and 1,190 dollars?" I found it difficult to reply, for I have seen the orchard of sand in question, and it certainly appeared to me excessive, in fact, I think the Commissioner must have been induced by interested parties to make such exorbitant calculation, which Hadj Mohammed declared the Sultan will never pay. The fact of Commissioners having made a valuation, not confirmed by Sultan, does not entitle the proprietors of the gardens to insist on payment, nor can I support such a demand. I have addressed a strong note and pointed out that the amount of valuations on gardens of Mr. Curtis and Mr. Cohen have been transferred (when payment is received to account of creditors. Hadj Mohammed Torres remarked that if the proprietors had done so and their creditors had accepted such an arrangement, it could not affect the claim upon the Moroccan Government for damages. This is very true. I think it is probable that fresh orders may be sent by Sultan to authorities at Mogador to seek to come to an arrangement with you. If so, I think you should accede to some fresh arrangement and get what terms you can. Visit the gardens, and get some disinterested party to calculate what may have been the real losses. It appears to me the old valuation was greatly exaggerated. Try and get this arranged. The fact of two of the proprietors now being absent ought not to prevent your settling this long-pending affair.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY

Inclosure 10 in No. 35.

Colonel Mathews to Sir J. Drummond Hay

My dear Sir,

Tangier, January 19, 1885.

IN reply to your esteemed note of this day, I beg to state that to my knowledge neither Mr. Corcos, nor any person under the American protection, has recovered any compensation for the destruction or damage of gardens in Mogador.

Mr. Corcos' long-standing claim for the destruction of some gardens at Mogador is still pending unsatisfied.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) F. A. MATHEWS.

No. 36.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received February 3.)

(No. 12.)

My Lord,

Tangier, January 27, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the French iron-clad "Dévastation" arrived at this port on the 25th instant from Brest, and departed this day, conveying the French Minister, M. Ordega, to France.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

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No. 37.

Mr. de Bunsen to Earl Granville.—(Received February 3.)

(No. 13. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 30, 1885.

IN the course of a conversation which I held with the Minister of State this afternoon, as I had the honour to report to your Lordship in my despatch No. 11 Africa, of this day's date, his Excellency took occasion to state at some length his views as to the future policy of Spain in Morocco.

At present, Señor Elduayen said, all the Powers interested in that country, with the exception of France, were agreed in desiring the maintenance of the status quo. A time would come, however, when internal feuds or religious animosities, encouraging, doubtless, by foreign intrigue, would bring about the downfall of the Sultan and the disruption of his Empire. When that crisis came his Excellency hoped and believed it would be found that the interests of Great Britain would best be served by a close alliance with Spain, which would enable the latter Power to occupy the country to the exclusion of a more powerful competitor. England would never allow a great foreign Power to establish itself on the southern shore of the Straits, and the independence of Spain would be seriously threatened were the French to become her neighbours to the south as well as to the north. On the other hand, no British interest would be compromised by the strengthening of a weak Power like Spain, which would leave England with the undisputed command of the Straits.

Such being his ideas with regard to the future, Señor Elduayen had felt constrained to state the Protectorate declared by Spain over the coast of Western Cape Bojador and Blanco would be regarded with favour by His Majesty's Government. Spain would offer no obstacle to British policy, and her position on the North West Coast of Africa might be regarded as an ally to the new alliance as much as it seemed, by Italy on the Red Sea. The Alps and the Pyrenees afforded no sufficient protection to the Italian and Spanish Peninsulas, which were in constant danger from the overwhelming pressure of the great continental Powers lying to the north of them. England then, was the natural ally both of Spain and Italy, and the extension of whose influence in Africa could only conduce to her advantage.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

No. 38.

Dr. Arpa to Earl Granville.—(Received February 4.)

(No. 14.)

My Lord,

Tangier, January 26, 1885.

WITH reference to Mr. Reade's despatch No. 1 of the 5th instant, on the subject of Mr. Levy's claim against the French military authorities for indemnity in respect of a piece of ground and store at Gabes which they took possession of, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I did not feel, shortly after Mr. Reade's departure, to call on M. Cambon and speak to him on the subject. I said that Mr. Levy could not consent to any of the restrictions mentioned in Lieutenant-Colonel Gripon's letter to M. Corcos of the 27th November, 1884, enclosed in your Lordship's despatch No. 40 of the 27th December last, and that all he wished was that the Arbitrators should be free to settle the whole claim. M. Cambon told me that he would have spoken to Lieutenant Colonel Gripon on the subject.

Some time after I saw Mr. Levy's agent here, who informed me that Lieutenant Colonel Gripon had called on him and told him that M. Cambon had spoken to him, and that he (M. Cambon) had written to his Government on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. ARPA.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 6.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 3, 1885

I HAVE received your despatch No. 10 of the 22nd ultimo, inclosing copies of letters which you have received from the Moorish Government in reply to your representations respecting the protracted delay in the settlement of the claims of British subjects.

With regard to the suggestion made by you that you should be empowered to make known to the Moorish Government that you will not require that any Moorish subjects, who owe money to British subjects, who are legally proved to be insolvent should be detained in prison, I have to inform you that I question whether it is advisable to lay down any general rule, such as you propose, applicable to the claims of British subjects, as it might encourage fraudulent suppression of assets.

I think it would be preferable to deal with each case on its own merits, taking care that no oppression or cruelty shall be allowed to be practised over native debtors either by useless prolongation of imprisonment or otherwise in the recovery of the claims which British subjects may have upon them.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 40.

Mr. Doitsh to Mr. Gladstone.—(Received at the Foreign Office, February .)

Sir,

11, Northampton Park, London, February 8, 1885.

I HUMBLY beg to lay before you the inclosed cuttings from the "Jewish Chronicle" and the "Jewish World," commenting upon and relating to the sad news the Jewish community of London have received from their co-religionists at Tangier (Morocco).

The heartrending accounts that have come to hand of the atrocities committed upon the unfortunate and helpless women and children and aged men are painful in the extreme, and it seems that the entire community of Demnat have been massacred or driven from their homes, the children butchered, and the women subjected to the grossest dishonour. Should these persecutions not be shortly checked, I fear the terrible consequences for all the Jews of Morocco.

I appeal to you, Sir, to use your great influence on behalf of my oppressed brethren in Morocco; to use the moral weight and effect of an identic note from the British Government, presented by their Representative at Tangier.

Appealing to your humane consideration, I beg, &c.

(Signed) M. DOITSH.

Inclosure 1 in No. 40.

Extracts from the "Jewish Chronicle" of February 6, 1885.

THE touching appeal we publish in another column from the Demnat refugees now at Tangier, but more particularly the painful narrative of two of the unfortunate victims of the Governor's cruelty, recall to mind, with all their shocking details, the atrocities perpetrated upon the Jews in Russia four years ago. It is positively heartrending to read the account of the bodily torture of an aged Rabbi, who, within two years of completing his 100th year, received upwards of 900 lashes on his naked back. It is little short of a marvel that the unfortunate man did not succumb whilst under the lash. As it is, he is not expected to live. Still more terrible are the particulars of the brutal outrages committed upon women, young and old, who were ravished by negroes in the employment of the Governor. At another place the Jews were mercilessly attacked by a party of ruffians in ambush, and although they defended themselves as well as they could, several of them received such shocking injuries that they eventually died. This act of self-defence, we may add, was made the basis for a charge that the Jews had committed an outrage on Moors.

The statements to which we give publicity bear upon them the very impress of truth. Yet in the face of these and other damning facts, the authenticity of which has been proved to the satisfaction of several Representatives of foreign Powers at Tangier, the Moorish Governmental authorities continue to declare that the Jews of Demnat have no ground for complaint against their Governor. Our Tangier correspondent has furnished us with a solution of this obstinate refusal to give credence to the complaints of the Jews, and his information has been confirmed by the "Times of Morocco." In its issue of the 26th January this journal states that when the Sultan lately sent an Agent to Demnat to inquire into the charges made against the Governor, the latter presented the investigating official with a sum of 400 dollars, and each of his attendants with 200 dollars—the amount of the bribes being raised by means of a forced levy upon the Jews themselves. The result of this wholesale bribery was a Report to the Sultan exonerating the Governor of Demnat, and actually turning the tables on his victims, who were accused of all manner of malpractices. Our own Minister at Morocco, as well as the French, Italian and American colleagues, have addressed frequent and energetic remonstrances to the Government of the Sultan. Unhappily their intervention has hitherto proved utterly futile, perhaps because they have almost invariably not acted in concert with each other. Nothing but united action on the part of the foreign Representatives, expressed in the form of a powerful identic note to the Sultan, can bring about the cessation of the persecution of the Jews, and the dismissal of the Governor, who has so long been permitted to torture them unjustly.

THE JEWS OF DEMNAT.—The following is a translation of an appeal addressed to the Anglo-Jewish Association by the Jewish fugitives from Demnat at present staying at Tangier, dated the 6th December last:—

"Brother Israelites,

"You have already been informed by many persons, and on different occasions, of the calamities which have befallen us and our families, who are now wandering about homeless and unbefriended. The children of the Demnat community are literally driven from place unto place; they have to endure hunger, and they suffer destitution in the direst and most trying reality. Men and women, the old and the young, are without shelter; they are exposed to the heat of the day and the cold of the night; they find no resting place for their weary limbs. Every day adds to our distress, but we do not venture to molest you with a detailed and full description of our increasing trials. The man in power behaves towards us like a second Haman. He continually invents new measures for crushing us out of existence. The Jews who have remained at Demnat inform us that in the course of the present month he summoned them to appear before him, with the object of bearing baseless testimony in his favour (and to clear his character). But they refused to do so. He then seized thirty men, whom he imprisoned and loaded with heavy chains. Some of the Jews who fled were overtaken by his satellites; six of them were cut down with the sword. We do not know whether they are dead or not, for they are at present beyond our reach. His underlings are sent every night to search the Jewish houses, which they ransack. The inmates are thus left destitute and stripped of every covering to protect them from the chilly weather.

"Unhappily, we have hitherto received no reply from London. O, our brethren, let us entreat you, by the name of our M-ker, and for the sake of our pious ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to stand by our side, and lend us your support; for you have attained the reputation that you form a bond of brotherhood throughout the land. You exercise a mighty influence in your power to remove the oppressed from the oppressor. Have pity, have compassion upon us. Who is he that will take an interest in our dire distress, if our own brethren stand aloof? Season after season has gone by, and no relief has been afforded us. If the evil-minded Governor be not removed from his post, or if his guilt be not laid bare according to the severity of truth, after so many evils he has inflicted upon us, the past misfortunes will not be confined to the circle in which we are placed; they will extend to all the Jews through Moghreb. Persecution unchecked can only increase; the example becomes contagious. We trust to heaven that you will evince a feeling of sympathy for us in our calamities. Do not stand still until you have drawn forth our cause to the light of justice. Withhold not from us your attention and merit from us the prayer that the days of your lives and of your children may be lengthened. May you see Judah and Israel living in safety. Amen!

"Written with weeping hearts and under complete prostration by a remnant of the community of Demnat."

The foregoing appeal obtains support from the harrowing descriptions written by two of the victims of the outrages. Esther, the wife of Moses Am-salem, writes to her husband, one of the Jews of Demnat, who fled to Tangier to obtain succour and redress—

"Even if you could witness our dire distress this day you would weep tears of blood. We left Demnat, even as our forefathers left Egypt, we escaped only with our lives, but we left, weeping as we went out, bringing nothing with us. The Governor took away our goods and last night the rabble from the streets entered our houses and sacked them, and ravished the women, and subjected the children to horrible abuses. We were helpless, and therefore obliged to submit to the worst passions of the mob."

Even the Jews who were in sanctuary under the friendly Shercefs were attacked and robbed, notwithstanding the rules of sanctuary. Rabbi Yussuf El Malik, 98 years of age, has been liberated from his horrid chains, and being afraid that he would be seized again, he fled to the Shercefs' sanctuary but he was there seized and stripped, laid on the ground and subjected to 990 lashes, and left for dead; but he recovered a little, and is still alive, though it is impossible for him to live long.

Isaac Cohen (a merchant) who was with him in sanctuary, was beaten nearly to death. All this has been done by the cruel orders of the Governor. I was fortunate enough to escape with four other women to Oulad Khuloof, where we are now. The women had a great deal of trouble subjected to the most shocking outrages. They were so sorely injured and so much distressed by the orders of the Governor, young and old, that the women are unable to escape from their tormentors. If any are found attempting to get away, they are immediately brought back and lodged in the common prison.

"You wrote to me to get our Moorish partners to sell some of our property and send the money to you. You are mistaken in this, that any Moor found assisting us in any way will be severely punished and his property confiscated."

The Governor has ordered that if any Moor has a grudge against a Jew he may kill him.

You told me to sell all the leather we had in stock, and the ploughs, &c., and live upon the proceeds. You do not seem to know that everything we had has been taken by the Governor, and you may be thankful that I escaped without being dishonoured like the rest of the women.

"If I were to write all I could tell you, I should never finish."

By order of the Governor, all the houses occupied by the Jews have been sacked, and everything taken away.

My brother Yaacov arrived at Tangier to purchase some provisions and was bringing it to Demnat, but on arrival everything was taken from him, and he was lodged in prison. This is all I know of him.

"Your distressed wife,

"ESTHER AM-SALEM."

The following is a translation of another letter written by Aaron Derri, whilst en route to Casablanca to David Hammer.

"I write to let you know about my cousin Khalifa ben-Mohar. The Governor sent for him, and ordered him to be stripped and laid down, and to receive 990 lashes. Mahammed Shacorie, the Governor's soldier, struck him in the eye with his shoe, and burst the eyeball."

"They bent him until he was in a pool of blood and then they put stones upon his legs weighing 35 rottilles (i.e. 40 lbs. 10 oz. English)."

"By the Governor's orders all the Jews' houses have been completely sacked, nothing remains."

"A few of our people are in sanctuary, some are in prison, others are dead or in hiding somewhere. The Governor went himself to the sanctuary of the Shercefs and produced a document which he said was a letter from the Sultan, ordering that the Jews were no longer to be protected, and that any person who killed any of them would not be punished."

"Your servant, Isaac-ben-Doad, went into the country and brought in some wheat, but on reaching the gate with the loaded animals, they were taken from him, and he was put in prison, together with some friendly Moors who had come in with him."

"The Governor sent a crier round the city to proclaim that any Moor who might be indebted to a Jew should come to him at once and get an acquittance."

"The Governor stopped our water supply, and when we applied to him for mercy he told us to go to the Nazaries for water or perish. We obtained enough to sustain life, secretly, from friendly Moors. The water course has been turned into our cemetery, which has now become a swamp."

"The wife of Reuben-el Malik tried to run away with her only son (about 18 months old) when the soldiers came to sack her house, but she was stopped and brought back, and the child taken from her arms and killed before her eyes."

"The Governor is furious at your going to complain to the Christians, and he declares that a curse be on the Christians for the S. L. A. and swears that he will take his revenge, even if it costs him the whole eastern full of gold that his father left him. God help us!"

Inclosure 2 in No. 40

Extract from the "Jewish World" of February 4, 1885

THE DEMNAT HORRORS.—If English-born Jews are not wholly void of the feelings of pity and compassion which should move every human and humane creature; if the designation (Merciful sons of merciful fathers) as applied to our race, be not wholly a fiction belied by their indifference to the pleading of an outraged people; if they are not altogether incapable of experiencing that righteous indignation which should move all merciful men when the murder of helpless men, the outraging of women, and the slaughter of children cries to Heaven for vengeance, then let our ecclesiastical, to say the least, the "horror" of Moroccan brutality are too easily satisfied with the story that reaches us from Demnat. We appeal to the Anglo-Jewish community, to the mining, language, in terms which are but the measure of the horror against, and no time in taking action in reference to the outrage which has been perpetrated in that hell-upon-earth for Jews, where Sir John D. Hay represents the majesty of moral force of Great Britain and the civilized Powers of Central Europe. So long as the account of the horrors now come slowly in from Demnat, so shocking and inhuman are they that the Russian atrocities of 1881—Heaven knows, bad enough—sink into utter insignificance beside them, and the treatment of our unhappy Russian brethren during the ever memorable riots three years ago, seems positively merciful in comparison with the barbaric brutality and inhuman torture under which many of the Moroccan Israelites are now groaning forth their last. Nothing more horrible and horrifying, we venture to think, has ever reached this country. And our Christian fellow-countrymen as well as a Liberal Government will alike shame their professions of humanity and civilisation if they suffer the cry from Demnat, when brought to their ears, to be written by unheeded upon the wind.

It is no imaginary picture we draw of enormous outrages exaggerated for journalistic effect. It is no coloured portrayal of horrors emanating from the pen of skilled descriptive writers, but the sober, serious narrative of a shocking reality. According to the sworn depositions made, and the letters of Esther Am-salem, the following are some of the few atrocities which have been perpetrated upon the Jews of Demnat. By order of the Governor, in the first instance, the whole of the houses of the Jews were entered and completely sacked. At night, the guards were removed, and the rabble entered these dwellings, there to work their own wills. They ravished all the Jewish women, they outraged their children, subjecting helpless little ones to the most horrible abuses, abuses so foul and unnatural, that the writer, a woman, abstains from specifying them. The Rabbi Yussuf-el Malik was seized from the friendly sanctuary of a Shercefs, and, though upwards of 98 years of age, thrown to the ground, stripped, and subjected to 990 lashes. Let our readers imagine 990 lashes upon an infirm old man of nearly a 100—and for no offence! The unhappy wretch was alive when this account to hand was penned, but was in a dying condition. In the houses of other Jews, the women, young and old, were subjected to horrid outrages. "They were ravished by negroes and others in the employ of the Governor, young and old alike, there women being unable to escape from their tormentors. If they attempted to escape they were brought back and

lodged in the common prison." So word for word runs the letter of Esther Amsalem, one of the Jewesses of Demnat, when writing to her husband. One poor Jew, Khalif-ben-Mohar, was brought before the Governor, laid upon the floor, and then given 700 lashes, till, half-dead, he lay in a pool of blood. Then, and our readers may mark the brutality of such an act, the Governor's soldier came forward, and beat the wretched man as he lay, with a shoe, on his eyes, until the eye-ball burst! One wretched woman, the wife of Reuben-el-Malikh, tried to escape with her infant 18 months old. The Governor's soldiers caught her, brought her back into the town, and then, taking her baby from her, with a devilish malignity, butchered it before the mother's eyes! such are some of the "horrors" of Demnat, such the atrocities, such the brutality perpetrated upon the Jews of Morocco, who cry to Heaven for mercy, and to their coreligionists for aid, to put an end to the unsupportable miseries under which they are lingering out their wretched existence. We have omitted the minor tyrannical acts of the heathish El Hadj Jellali, such as the stopping of water supplies to Jews, and the summary arrest of all Israelites who bring any goods into the town.

The above is only a simple and unvarnished record of what has been going on at Demnat. Murder, outrage, pillage, the violation of women, and the butchering of infants, and this is the sort of thing Sir John Drummond Hay will, as in former cases, seek to justify, nay, according to the latest accounts, has attempted to justify, on the ground that by usury the Jews bring persecution upon themselves! Surely diplomatic effrontery can go no further. Can the law not stop usury? Surely a Governor who robs the Jews of their property, can declare usurious contracts annulled! Is it necessary to flog old men to death, to violate women, to perpetrate atrocities upon children, to burst men's eye-balls, to smother infants before their mother's eyes, in order to deter a few Jews from taking excessive interest on money? Is it an attempt to justify things like this inhuman brutality, and savage bestiality, on the ground that some, or even many Jews are rascals, should shame honest Englishmen, and make them ponder whether England has not Representatives more Moorish than the Moor himself, less accessible to mercy and civilized promptings than the semi-savage Rulers to whom they are accredited. One thing is patent, that nothing will be gained by representations to our Government, which will simply act as Sir John Drummond Hay reports, and the worse in which he will report in a foreign conclusion. We want public opinion brought to bear upon the matter. Englishmen are accessible to pity, as they showed in the spontaneous outbreak in 1881—a magnificent token of sympathy with an oppressed and cruelly-treated people. Let the story of Moroccan outrages be told, plainly and truthfully, let the "horrors of Demnat" be made to cry in England's ears, as it resounds now in our own, and El Hadj Jellali will soon cease his brutal and savage sport. This task, that of making known to the outer world the facts we have here outlined, is one that every English Jew should bear a hand in. Let English Jews read the story we have told in a newspaper item to be daily digested with their morning coffee or evening tea, with other news from afar but as realities. Let them imagine how they would feel if their wives were outraged, their infants murdered, their old men beaten to death, and their young ones imprisoned, let them feel all this as things happening before their own eyes and affecting their own loved ones, and feeling thus, let English Jews sit still and do nothing if they can, and if they dare, cowards in their own esteem.

No. 41

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 7.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 11, 1885.

I HAVE to inform you that your proceedings in the matter of Mr. Curtis' claim against the Moorish Government, as reported in your despatch No. 41 of the 27th ultimo, are approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 42.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Messrs. R. C. Bowker and Co.

Foreign Office, February 11, 1885.

Gentlemen,

WITH reference to my letter of the 9th ultimo, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you, for your information, copy of a Report which has been furnished by Her Majesty's Minister in Morocco, showing the steps which he has taken with a view to a settlement of Mr. James Curtis' claim against the Moorish Government for damages done to a garden near Mogador in 1873.

I am to add that the proceedings of Sir J. D. Hay in this matter have been approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 42.

Memorandum.

IN the year 1873 the tribes dwelling in the Province of Haha rebelled against the authority of the Governor who resided at that time in Mogador. An armed force of these tribes presented themselves in the vicinity of Mogador and demanded to see the Governor. The latter having refused to admit them into the town, they destroyed the vegetables, hedges, &c., of the gardens.

These gardens were waste lands of sand belonging to the Government, which various Europeans and other protected persons in previous years had taken possession of, and had hedged and cultivated for vegetables, tapping the public aqueduct in order to obtain water, which is scarce. The local authorities do not appear to have taken any steps to dislodge them, or to protect against their right of possession, especially as the cultivation of vegetables was generally useful to the town as a whole.

I visited Mogador in 1875 and saw these gardens, and claims for damages were then presented to me by British subjects.

On the 19th March, 1876, I addressed a note to Cid Mohammed Bargash, putting forward the claims of British subjects for damages done to their gardens, and requested that persons should be appointed to assess the damages, and that compensation should be granted.

I find no record of a written reply from Cid Mohammed Bargash, but I remember having received repeated verbal assurances that the matter had been submitted for the consideration of the Sultan.

On the 20th June, 1877, I addressed a note to Cid Mohammed Bargash, informing him that I had learnt that an estimate of the damages had been made by officers appointed for that purpose by order of the Sultan, but that no compensation had yet been offered to the claimants. I mentioned that I had heard the Sultan had been informed that smuggling was carried on in these gardens, and that the supply of water for the town was taken from the public aqueduct by the occupiers of the gardens without the permission of the Governor. I suggested that the Administrator of Revenues at Mogador should inquire into these statements, and that if the estimate made was not considered a fair one, a fresh estimate should be collected.

Cid Mohammed Bargash did not send any written reply, but verbal assurances were repeatedly given to me that he had submitted my letter to the Sultan, with whom the matter rested, but I was given to understand that the estimate which had been made was unfair and excessive, brought about through bribery of the officers appointed to make the estimate, which, I understand, is true.

On the 15th March, 1878, having heard nothing further from Cid Mohammed Bargash, I addressed a letter to the Vizir Cid Musa Ben Ahmed, requiring that a fresh and fair estimate of the damages should be made in concert with the Consular officers who were interested in the matter.

On the 27th May, 1878, I received a reply from the Vizir, informing me that orders had been sent by the Sultan that a fresh estimate should be made of the losses sustained by the occupiers of the gardens.

About this time famine came on in the southern provinces of Morocco, and the Moorish Government declined to give further attention to claims for which the

payment was to be levied on the tribes until the population should recover from their distress and be in a more prosperous state.

In 1852, when I was at the Moorish Court, I again pressed among the general claims of British subjects that the garden claims should be settled, and I received assurances that they would be arranged, but that the estimate of 1876 must be set aside as excessive.

On the 18th June, 1881, I addressed a note to the Acting Minister, Hadj Mohammed Torres, stating that I understood M. Bollelli, an Italian subject at Mogador, had received 600 dollars on account of damages done to his garden in 1873, and that I required that similar claims of British subjects should be settled in the same manner.

On the 1st August, 1881, I received from the Sultan's Secretary, Cid Mohammed Ben Suleyman, an extract from a letter received from the Sultan, in which His Majesty said that "as to the claims of merchants for damages done to their gardens at Mogador, orders had been given to the Governor and Administrators of Revenue to make a fresh estimate, and the Governor of Haha would be ordered to pay it."

On the 12th December I addressed another note to Hadj Mohammed Torres informing him that the new estimate made of the damages was only one-fourth of the original estimate, and was rejected with good grounds by British subjects.

On the 22nd instant I addressed Cid Mohammed Bargash a note on the subject of the general claims of British subjects, demanding that the claims of British subjects for damages done to their gardens should be placed on the same footing as the claim of the Italian subject.

I transmit the copy of a letter addressed to me by the United States Consul, Colonel Mathews, in reply to the query I had put to him regarding the payment of similar claims of persons under United States protection. Colonel Mathews declares that no such payment has been received, and this is confirmed by Hadj Mohammed Torres.

I have done all in my power to obtain satisfaction of these long pending claims. It must be admitted, however, that the claims are for damages done to gardens rightfully the property of the Sultan, and that the Sultan's subjects are dependent on the water wrongfully abstracted from the supply of the town from the gardens. In fact, and further, that when, after a protracted negotiation, I had obtained from the Sultan an order for the assessment of the damages, the occupiers of these gardens managed to induce Moorish officials charged with drawing up the estimate to make and value charges. Those who know this country and the value of plots of sand would be astonished to find that damages for destruction of hedges, &c., without buildings, could be assessed at 1,751 dollars, and 1,196 dollars &c., when gardens with orange trees barely realize such prices. This fact alone had given good grounds for the Sultan to reject the original estimate.

The money for the claim of the Italian subject, though it has been very recently paid into the Italian Legation, has not yet, as I am assured by M. Scovasso, been delivered to the claimant.

Whether the original estimate of the Italian claim was 600 dollars or not, I have demanded, in energetic language, that the claims of British subjects on account of damages done to gardens should be placed on as favourable a footing as the claim of the Italian subject.

Inclosure 2 in No. 42.

Colonel Mathews to Sir J. Drummond Hay

My dear Sir,

IN reply to your esteemed note of this day, I beg to state that to my knowledge neither Mr. Corcos, nor any person under the American protection, has recovered any compensation for the destruction or damage of gardens in Mogador.

Mr. Corcos' long-standing claim for the destruction of some gardens at Mogador is still pending unsatisfied.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) F. A. MATHEWS.

Tangier, January 9, 1885.

No. 43.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received February 21.)

(No. 17.)

My Lord,

Tangier, February 13, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 6 of the 10th ultimo, reporting the steps I had taken on behalf of the Jews of Demnat, and to your Lordship's despatch No. 5 of the 29th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit a translation of a letter addressed to me by the Vizier informing me that the Sultan, in compliance with the wishes I had expressed, has directed Cid Bubecker Al Khanjowy to institute an inquiry into the charges made by certain Jews of Demnat against the Governor of that district, and has further directed a respectable Jew of Morocco, named Haim Corcos, to proceed to Demnat on the same errand, and that these persons have received orders to report to His Shereefian Majesty the result of their inquiry.

I have also received a letter from Cid Bubecker expressing his readiness to proceed to Demnat as soon as he receives the Sultan's orders. He says his task will be a difficult one, as some of the Jews are partisans of the Governor, and many persons have mixed themselves up in this affair, who may be bribed to give evidence for or against the Governor as may suit their inclination. He hopes, however, to be able to collect reliable information, and under any circumstances he will seek to allay the excitement that has been produced amongst both the Jewish and the Mahomedan population.

Cid Bubecker suggests that, should the Sultan not remove the Governor of Demnat, I should recommend that the Jews be placed under another authority. He says that the Jews of Shragua, a district situated in the neighbourhood of Demnat, and the city of Morocco, had also complained of ill-treatment and injustice on the part of their Governor, and the Sultan had appointed the Basha of Morocco to govern them, that the Jews of Safi having also complained of the conduct of the Governor of that port, His Shereefian Majesty had placed them under the jurisdiction of the Administrators of Revenues.

The Vizier has not yet replied to my demand for justice on account of the robbery of the Jewish agent of a British subject by the dependents of the Governor of Demnat, but I conclude he awaits the Report of Cid Bubecker, who has been directed to inquire also into this affair.

I await the Report of Cid Bubecker, before I take any further steps in the Demnat question, or communicate with the deputation of Jews from that district, who, I understand, are still in Tangier.

The Italian Minister, who from the commencement had taken an active part on behalf of the Jews of Demnat, and had received a letter from the Vizier assuring him that if the deputation would proceed to the Court, the Sultan would give a hearing to all they had to submit, and would issue stringent orders that would prevent their persecution hereafter, informs me that the deputation of Jews have got into bad hands here, and have been recommended not to return until they receive a large indemnity on account of their alleged ill-treatment. Mr. Meakin, a Moorish subject named Benatwool, now a naturalized American citizen, acting as it is supposed under instructions from the United States' Consul, and Levy Cohen, editor of the "Réveil du Maroc," have given this advice.

Demnat is situated in the country of the Shlohs, a very wild daring race; the Jews there carry arms, and, I am told, are far from being the abject people which their brethren in other parts of the Empire are, so there may be some truth after all in the accusation put forward against them of having acted in a disorderly manner; but I await, as I have said, Cid Bubecker's Report, before I form a decided opinion upon this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. B. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 43.

The Vizier to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

Fec, 11 Rabia II, 1302 (January 28, 1885).

WE received your letter in reply to what we wrote to you regarding the question of the Jews of Demnat with their Governor, saying that you do not accept the statements made by the Governor or by those who were sent by the Sultan to Demnat to investigate.

the affair regarding the stoning of the Mussulmans at the time when the Shereefian Edict was read to the Jews, and we have made ourselves acquainted with all you have said upon this subject. We communicated your letter to His Shereefian Majesty, who has confidence in whatever you write; but His Majesty is much surprised that the Kadi of Demnat, who is well known to all men for being just and truthful, as also the Administrator of Revenues, and the other two persons sent by His Majesty to ascertain the truth, should have made statements which are opposed to what occurred, and should have lied in their Reports.

His Shereefian Majesty has sent for the Shereef, who was struck by a stone, and whose toe was broken, and for the Moslem who was hit in the left eye, and for the Fakel who was also struck, so that His Majesty may hear from them in person.

His Majesty has ordered Bubeke Al Khanjowy to proceed to Demnat, and to inquire who are the guilty and who are the falsely accused, and whether the Governor is guilty. Whatever is certified to him (Bubeke) as being the truth and worthy of credence, he is to report it to His Shereefian Majesty, so that His Majesty may decide upon what should be done as suggested by you. This has been done on account of the great confidence which His Majesty has in you. His Majesty has also ordered Haim Corcos* to proceed to Demnat to investigate this affair and to report the result and the truth as to what has happened, for he (Corcos) had, in the lifetime of our blessed Lord the Sultan, been sent to inquire into a dispute between the Governor and the Jews which was of greater importance than the present affair.

His Majesty has ordered us, O esteemed friend, to tell you that these Jews have committed a grave error in separating themselves from established Regulations, and that they have acted with little judgment. Not only the Jews of Demnat, but the Jews in general of these dominions, have trespassed beyond the boundaries of right, have broken through their pacts, and have acted unjustly towards the Mussulmans,† and have violated their engagements. Notwithstanding their conduct the Government have avoided taking notice of it, and have concealed their ill deeds from the people in order to shield them from violence, and the Government do not wish to make public their opinion as to whether they are guilty or not. Sometimes they are manifestly the aggressors, at other times they may be the sufferers. If they are unjust towards others it is not right that they be permitted to continue so, but justice must take its course, and, if they are injured, justice will be done to them in accordance with the law.

We beg of you, O our friend, to make this known to them, and to explain to them that you are aware of their conduct, and of what has occurred (regarding Jews) in Prussia, Russia, and elsewhere. The present Governor of Demnat is allaying this excitement in all that district, and were the Government to punish this Governor it would afford a pretext for disturbances, and there would be a general rising in those tribes. The neighbouring tribe of Entifa rebelled against their Governor and drove him out, and should the same thing happen in Demnat the Jews and others would suffer. Therefore, O our friend, we beg you to reprimand the Jews on this account, and to warn them and turn them into the right path, that they may become obedient, for they have passed all bounds in their ill doings.

The people of Demnat are waiting to see the termination of these ill doings, and a large number of evil persons are watching the course of this affair with pleasure, hoping that they may be enabled to accomplish their ends. We hope, therefore, O our friend, that you will recommend the deputation of Demnat Jews, who are in Tangier, to come to the Court and to submit to the Sultan's orders, which will be for their own good, for they will not experience anything but good treatment at the hands of His Shereefian Majesty, and will be sent back to Demnat well pleased.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN AL ARBY BEN AL MOKHTAR

No. 44.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Baron H. de Worms.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 23, 1885.*
WITH reference to my letter of the 29th ultimo, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you herewith an extract from a further Report which has been received from

* A respectable Jew of the city of Morocco.—J. H. D. H.

† See remarks of Sir J. Drummond Hay in No. 6 of January 10 regarding protest of Jews of Fez and Mequinez.—J. H. D. H.

Her Majesty's Minister in Morocco upon the subject of the alleged ill-treatment of the Jews of Demnat.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 45.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Mr. Dotsch.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 23, 1885.*
YOUR letter of the 9th instant to the Prime Minister, calling attention to alleged outrages committed on the Jews of Demnat, Morocco, has been forwarded to this Office, and I am directed by Earl Granville to inform you that his Lordship has been in communication with the Anglo-Jewish Association on the subject, and has communicated to that Society the Reports received from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier of the steps which he has taken on behalf of the sufferers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 46.

Baron H. de Worms, M.P., and Mr. A. Cohen, M.P., to Earl Granville.—(Received February 26.)

My Lord, *London, February 26, 1885.*
WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letters of the 29th and 31st ultimo, the former inclosing extracts from a despatch from Her Britannic Majesty's Minister in Morocco upon the subject of the persecution of the Jews of Demnat. We have to offer our warmest thanks to your Lordship for the prompt and humane action you have taken in this matter.

Since we addressed your Lordship concerning the Jews of Demnat their situation has been greatly aggravated. This is shown in a letter of which we beg to inclose a copy. We have also received other trustworthy communications which show that Jewish women of Demnat have been violated, men tortured, and property pillaged or destroyed. No mercy has been shown to age or sex, and the Sanctuary itself has failed to protect the unfortunate victims from the savage attacks of their tormentors. Letters received from all sides confirm us in the belief that neither life nor property will be safe in Demnat unless the Governor be removed. We therefore earnestly pray your Lordship to instruct Her Britannic Majesty's Minister in Morocco to renew the demand he has already made (as appears from his despatch of the 10th January) for the immediate dismissal of the Governor and his replacement by a just and humane successor.

We need not say that every respectable member of the Jewish community here and elsewhere would deplore and deprecate, in the strongest possible terms, such practices as form the subject of Sir John Drummond Hay's observations, and we have put ourselves in communication with the Jewish communities of Fez and Mequinez, as well as with that of Tangier, urging them that they should admonish their brethren to abandon the evil practices referred to by your Lordship. At our instance the Reverend the Chet Rabbi, Dr. Adler, has also promised to write to the Jewish authorities in Morocco in the like spirit, and we sincerely hope that these steps may have the desired effect.

We have, &c.
(Signed) H. DE WORMS, President of the Anglo-Jewish Association.
ARTHUR COHEN, President of the London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews

Inclosure in No. 46.

Extract from the "Jewish Chronicle" of February 6, 1885.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 40.]

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 11.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 5, 1885.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 17 of the 18th ultimo, and to previous correspondence respecting the alleged ill-treatment of the Jews of Demnat, I transmit to you the accompanying copy of a further communication from the Anglo-Jewish Association and the London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews, containing renewed representations upon the subject, and pressing for the removal of the Governor of Demnat;* and I have to request that you will take such further steps in the case as you may deem most expedient with a view to the prevention of outrage.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 48.

Sir J. Pauncefote to Baron H. de Worms, M.P., and Mr. A. Cohen, M.P.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, March 5, 1885.

IN reply to your letter of the 25th ultimo, I am directed by Earl Granville to refer you to my letter of the 23rd ultimo, which would appear to have crossed it, and which contained a Report by Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier showing the steps taken by the Sultan of Morocco, at his request, to institute an inquiry into the charges made by certain Jews at Demnat against the Governor of that district; and I am to add that a copy of your present communication will be at once forwarded to Sir J. D. Hay, with instructions to take such further action in the matter as he may deem most expedient.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 49.

Mr. Wingfield to Sir J. Pauncefote.—(Received March 6.)

Sir,

Downing Street, March 5, 1885.

I AM directed by the Earl of Derby to transmit to you, to be laid before Earl Granville, a copy of a despatch from the Governor of Gibraltar relating to the disposal of certain property which has been claimed by the Emperor of Morocco since 1820.

I am to request that, if Lord Granville concurs in this course, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Morocco may be instructed to endeavour to arrange the matter on the basis recommended by Sir John Adye.

I am, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD WINGFIELD.

No. 50.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received March 10.)

(No. 19.)

My Lord,

Tangier, March 2, 1885.

THE United States' frigate "Lancaster," carrying the flag of Admiral English, arrived here on the 19th ultimo.

I understand that the Admiral addressed a note to the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hadj Mohammed Torres, demanding that two Moors, agents in the interior of a United States' citizen residing at Duralbaida, who had been imprisoned, should be released, and that their property, which had been confiscated by the Governor of the province, should be restored to them. The Admiral fixed the term of twenty days for this Government to give the satisfaction demanded, and stated that at the end of that term he would revisit Tangier.

Hadj Mohammed Torres communicated to me confidentially this information, and I

* No. 46.

recommended that, if the facts of the case were such as the Admiral had represented them to be, it would be advisable for the Government to lose no time in complying with the demand of the Admiral.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 51.

Questions asked in the House of Commons, March 16, 1885.

MOROCCO.

Mr. W. Corbet asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether his attention had been called to a statement in the "Globe" of the 17th February, that, on a charge of having stolen a bullock, a man's eyes were cut out, by order of one of the local authorities in Morocco; and would Her Majesty's Government continue to protect the Sultan of Morocco from foreign aggression without insisting on the reform of his Administration.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—Her Majesty's Government have no official information of such an outrage having been committed, but Her Majesty's Minister will be instructed to report upon the facts of the case. Her Majesty's Representative at Tangier exerts all the influence which he can bring to bear to prevent abuses in the Administration of Morocco and to promote reform.

FRAUDULENT CLAIMS IN MOROCCO.

Mr. W. Corbet asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with reference to the inquiry made into the alleged fraudulent claims of British subjects against natives of Morocco, and the assurance he gave in November last that the matter would not be allowed to drop, whether he would lay Mr. Payton's Report of the Casablanca investigation upon the table of the House.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—Mr. Consul Payton reported on the conduct of a Consular official for the information of the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State, on receipt of the Report, discharged the official concerned; but it is not a public document, and could not properly be laid on the table.

No. 52.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 12.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 18, 1885.

I ENCLOSE a statement from the "Globe" newspaper of the 17th February,* to the effect that, upon a charge of having stolen a bullock, a man's eyes were cut out, by order of one of the local authorities in Morocco.

This alleged outrage has formed the subject of inquiry in the House of Commons, and I should be glad if you would endeavour to ascertain the facts of the case.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 53.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 13.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 18, 1885.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a letter from the Colonial Office,† forwarding copy of a despatch from the Governor of Gibraltar upon the subject of the disposal of certain property claimed by the Sultan of Morocco since 1820; and, in compliance with Lord Derby's suggestion, I have to request you to endeavour to obtain the assent of the Sultan to the settlement of the matter on the basis recommended by Sir J. Adye.

* No. 51.

† No. 49.

The inclosure in the Colonial Office letter is sent in original, and it is requested that it may be returned to this Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 54.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Sir R. Herbert

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 18, 1885.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, forwarding copy of a despatch from the Governor of Gibraltar upon the subject of the disposal of certain property which has been claimed by the Emperor of Morocco since 1820, and suggesting that Her Majesty's Minister in Morocco might be instructed to endeavour to arrange the matter on the basis recommended by Sir John Adye.

In reply, I am to state that Sir J. Drummond Hay will be instructed to submit the proposal to the Sultan, and to endeavour to obtain the assent of His Highness thereto.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 55.

Consul Dupuis to Earl Granville.—(Received March 20.)

(No. 2. Treaty. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tenerife, March 7, 1885.

MY Italian colleague, Don Pedro Ravina, having permitted me to make extracts of a Report which he has recently forwarded to his Government respecting the Spanish Commission of Exploration, which visited the coast of Morocco in the summer of 1883, with the view of selecting localities for establishing commercial centres on that coast for the outlet of products from the interior of Africa, I do myself the honour to forward a translation of the extract so made, thinking the subject may not be uninteresting to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HUTTON DUPUIS.

Inclosure in No. 55

Report of Spanish Commission of Exploration on West Coast of Morocco.

(Translation.)

THE Spanish Government having acceded to the wishes of the Sultan of Morocco that a Commission should be appointed to study and carefully explore that part of the west coast of the Empire comprised between Sidi-Mohammed Ben-Abdullah and El-Baida or White Plain, with the view to select a place for a port for the outlet of the products of the rich country of Suz, the Commission named at Mogador on the 21st July, 1883, started on the 23rd of the same month on its journey of exploration. The country to be explored was of considerable extent, but the time allowed for the work was extremely limited. The Commission, in company with the Hispano-Marruecos members charged to report on the localities, where in olden times stood Santa Cruz de Mar Pequeña and other old works, had to hasten its operations, so that it could scarcely give to the undertaking that careful and detailed study required in a work of this nature. Nevertheless, although sufficient information has been collected to form an idea of the capabilities afforded by nature to carry out the project in view, still too much absolute reliance must not be attached to every detail given. The Commission started from Mogador, and arrived at Santa Cruz de Agadir on the 23rd July, from whence its explorations were carried on by land.

From the geological formation of the land and its constant and unvarying height above the level of the sea, it was soon seen that the difficulties of establishing a port on the west coast were very great. The Commission regrets that Santa Cruz de Agadir, th

only favourable place on the coast for the establishment of an extensive port, surrounded as it is by a fertile and productive country, was not also included in its zone of operations, as further on will be seen the impossibility of creating commercial centres elsewhere on the coast, excepting perhaps the making of solid quays or moles where loading and unloading operations during fine weather, or when the sea is not too rough, may be carried on, but these obstacles are not met with at Agadir. The magnificent bay with which nature has endowed this place, and its excellent holding ground, with extensive plains surrounding it, are a combination of advantages rarely encountered in one place. If to these conditions are to be added the great richness of the soil in the interior such regret will be readily understood.

Agadir is defended by a castle or citadel 210 metres above the sea, placed on the cape which forms the entrance to its harbour, and protecting the waters which wash that line of coast. At a comparative small outlay a magnificent harbour could be established, not to be excelled elsewhere, which could afford shelter to the largest vessels as in an arsenal. Although not included in the work of exploration, as already stated, still the Commission cannot avoid describing the favourable impression the sight of Agadir produced on their minds, and now pass on to report on the various localities on the coast.

Sidi-Mohammed Ben-Abdullah.

This is the opening of a narrow valley into the sea formed by the prolongation of two hills enclosing a bay protected, to some extent, from the north-east winds. The River Wad-Sanguinet, which runs through this valley, is sufficiently wide at its mouth to enable the construction of a mole or quay. The bay is bounded on the north by Cape Igner-Slijd, and on the south by Acamour-Tabelguet, the former jutting into the sea some 320 metres, and the latter 220 metres, affording in this manner, if not a complete harbour owing to its limited extent, every facility for the construction of a jetty or mole for loading and discharging cargoes during the greater part of the year. The sandy bottom of the bay offers good anchorage ground, and although somewhat shallow still it could, by a prolongation of the mole, be deepened sufficiently for crafts to enter at all tides. Apart from these favourable conditions for carrying out building works, the locality possesses the advantage of being inhabited. The country belongs to the powerful and numerous tribe or "Kabila" of Am Bad or, which includes several other minor tribes in the vicinity.

The nearest inhabitants are the Tabelguet, dwelling on the left bank of the river, some 80 metres above the sea level, and 3 kilom. inland; Faunamart, about the same distance inland and inhabiting the right bank of the river, the Idebuchines, about 5 kilom. to the south; and the Marryt, about 7 kilom. off. All these tribes are a laborious, hard-working, and industrious race of people; they rear cattle of all kinds, and the country yields abundance of wool, wax, &c. Under these circumstances the Commission wishes to point out that if the coast conditions favour works of construction, the advantages offered by the country and the proximity of an industrious people are greater still, and would warrant the construction of jetties or quays for shipping purposes.

For the present it will not be necessary to enter further into details respecting this place.

Sidi Ifni.

This coast offers no place of shelter whatever from the violence of the wind and sea which prevail during the winter months, so that the construction of a quay or jetty, be it ever so strong, would be of no use. Like Sidi-Mohammed, it is the outlet of a very narrow valley, widening as it approaches the sea, with a river running through it during winter time, forming a small basin surrounded by fertile plains favourable to agriculture of all kinds. But the extent is so limited and far away from any inhabited place, that, notwithstanding its advantages, it would not be of much utility as a commercial centre. The land is rich in good drinkable water, which may be found by sinking wells a short distance from its surface. The coast is not favourable for the establishment of hydraulic works, as it runs nearly due north and south, and is perfectly flat. The sea is very shallow but it deepens gradually from the land, and breaks with great violence on the shore; this would necessitate a jetty of great length. There is one point only in this locality having a greater depth of water, and where, the breakers being nearer the shore, ships could load and unload. But to render this place of any use the sea should be exceptionally smooth, as otherwise there is nothing to arrest the force of the waves, which during bad weather attain extraordinary violence. A jetty, therefore, constructed

here would not last any length of time. The Commission does not enter more fully into details because the scheme would be impracticable at this place.

Sidi Wornik

Having been informed that on this shore cargoes have been embarked and disembarked, it was decided to visit the place in order to ascertain whether better conditions than those hitherto existing could not be found, but it was at once seen that it would be impossible to establish works of any kind here. In fact, although this coast does offer some small bay or creeks where vessels could be sheltered, and even beached, still it would not be practicable to establish permanent works owing to the calcareous nature of the soil on one hand, and crystalline decomposition matter on the other, which is liable to be undermined by the action of the sea. The land here presents perpendicular escarpments of 60 or 70 metres high, offering no base whatever for constructing a mole or jetty.

Aksei.

This locality has also served as a landing-place, but nothing could be made of it. The narrow and confined rivulet does not even reach the sea. The land is high, with a narrow beach, offering no means of any kind for carrying out hydraulic operations. The shelving sea bottom is composed of fine silicate, and very injurious to vessels, the scarcity of water and the absence of other resources renders this place altogether unserviceable for commercial purposes. There is a small cove or bay here where landing operations have been carried on, and from examinations made it would seem less objectionable than others, but this alone would not suffice. Its neighbourhood is extremely limited and although vessels in fine weather may enter the cove, still they would not be able to do so were it at all rough, when the entrance is completely closed, and, according to the natives, the sea is constantly in a state of agitation on this coast.

Akassa.

Situated some 12 miles farther to the south of the former place is a rivulet, which gives its name to the locality through which it runs. Narrow and tortuous throughout its course, it opens out into a valley at its outlet, but it is extremely exposed. The soil is covered with silicate sand, the decomposition of rocks of the neighbouring hills forming a series of dunes, or sand-hills, overgrown with low stunted shrubs. The rivulet runs among these sands, which it carries along with it and deposits in the sea, gradually raising the level, and almost drying up and closing the outlet in summer. It slowly filters through these sands and accumulates until it bursts the banks which confine it, and ultimately finds its way to the sea. The outlet of this river is between Capes Fajazel and Fas Lashur, occupying a space of some 2,500 metres. The coast is indented with small apertures, in one of which, sheltered by Cape Fajazel, the construction of a jetty is contemplated. At first sight the conditions offered here would seem to favour the project, as the cove is of some extent, and the soil around, consisting of fine silicate sand, would afford facilities for ship-building and launching. The cove being, besides, sufficiently deep, and the water very clear, this spot is considered more favourable than any other. There is, however, a great scarcity of drinkable water, such as is found being almost stagnant, owing to its slow filtration through the sand, and containing as it does organic matter injurious to health. Good water could be brought here from no great distance and at a small cost.

Borda, or White Plain.

A first impression of this land is sufficient to convince any one of the impossibility of effecting works there of any kind. This country, known by the name of the White Plain, is nothing more than an extensive line of sand along the sea-shore; there is nothing to relieve the eye throughout this immense collection of dunes, or sand-hills, or anything affording the slightest shelter or projecting land of any sort. It is an immense melancholy, monotonous plain with dunes, or sand-hills, of considerable height, without a single stone or shrub anywhere to be seen. The Commission has thus far carried out the orders intrusted to it.

As already stated, a jetty or quay could be constructed at Sidi-Mohammed or at Assaka, but preference should be given to the first place, seeing that the shelter offered there by the capes is greater than at the last place, although Sidi-Mohammed would require a longer jetty. Another circumstance favouring this place is that, while considerable expenses would be necessary for dredging purposes at Assaka, none would be

required at Sidi-Mohammed. To this may be added that Sidi-Mohammed is surrounded by a fertile and productive country, while Assaka is situated at the entrance of the desert and about 15 miles from the nearest inhabited places. Under these circumstances, the Commission considers that Sidi-Mohammed Ben-Abdullah is the only possible locality where works can be effected. In conclusion, it may be permitted the Commission to express its gratitude to the members who, by order of the Sultan, accompanied it, for the great attention and delicacy they exhibited in every minute detail which will ever have a lasting and pleasurable impression of their expedition to the west coast of Morocco.

No. 56.

Dr. Arpa to Earl Granville.—(Received March 20.)

(No. 9.)

My Lord,

Tunis, March 14, 1885.

WITH reference to Mr. Reade's despatch No. 20 of the 6th May, 1884, and other previous correspondence, on the subject of the trespass committed by M. Roquerol on the piece of ground adjoining the English Protestant Church therein mentioned claimed by the same as its property, I have the honour to report that Rev. Reichardt, English Protestant chaplain at Tunis, has definitely accepted the gift of that part of the ground in question, which, as mentioned in Mr. Reade's said despatch, had been bought by Mr. Abdel Gelil Benayad and by Elbedy Zarrouk, two Mohammedan gentlemen, with the object of making of it a present to the English Protestant Church, in order to obviate the difficulties existing between the same and M. Roquerol, and the proper formality was gone through before two Arab notaries on the 9th instant.

This patch of ground so accepted, measuring about 160 metres, is not the whole piece claimed by the Church, which measured about 220. It includes, moreover, the triangular piece immediately adjoining the Church ground, also mentioned in Mr. Reade's despatch of the 6th May, 1884, measuring about 30 metres, which is now admitted by M. Roquerol to belong to the Church as part of the ground granted by the Tunisian Government for the erection of an English Protestant place of worship, and which he is now disposed to substitute by an additional piece of ground having the same measurement. M. Roquerol, however, will not do this before settling his difficulties with his immediate sellers, and on condition that the Church should pay him one-half of its value (4/1) if this arrangement is accepted, or else that he should pay the Church that sum if it is not.

Rev. Reichardt had already decided some time ago to accept the offer made by the two Mohammedan gentlemen above mentioned, considering that in the absence of a title-deed he had no other option. He delayed, however, doing this, as he hoped to have the question about the triangular piece settled before finally accepting; but inasmuch as he had reasons to believe that intrigues were going on to deprive the Church of the piece of ground so offered to the same altogether, he made up his mind to accept it at once, considering that it would always be an advantage for the same to own it, upon which a part of the contemplated building of a parsonage may be erected.

The only loss that the Church will sustain besides the payment of the 40/., if the above-mentioned condition is accepted, is calculated to be about 50 metres of ground on the eastern side of the patch originally claimed by the Church and where it ended, forming a right angle with the main road, the length of this side of the ground being that of about 18 metres, according to the plan annexed to Mr. Reade's said despatch. But Rev. Reichardt thinks that even if the Church owned this quantity of ground, he would have willingly abandoned it towards the construction of a road which is contemplated to be made immediately touching the wall of the future parsonage, where stores may be built yielding a certain income to the Church.

The arrangement made by Rev. Reichardt disposes, I venture respectfully to say, of a question which had been for some time pending, and which threatened to become a helpless matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. ARPA.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received March 21.)

(No. 181.)

My Lord,

Paris, March 20, 1885.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 52 of the 28th January last and to previous correspondence relative to Mr. Levy's claim for compensation for land belonging to him occupied by the French military authorities at Gabes, I have the honour to inclose a copy of a note from M. Jules Ferry, in which he says that he has every reason to believe that the matter will soon be settled in the form which has been chosen by common accord by the parties interested.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 57.

M. Ferry to Viscount Lyons.

Paris, le 19 Mars, 1885.

M. l'Ambassadeur.

PAR sa dépêche du 23 Janvier dernier, votre Excellence a bien voulu appeler mon attention sur une demande formulée par Mr. Levy, de Gabès, sujet Anglais, tendant à ce que le taux de l'indemnité qui lui était due en raison de l'occupation par nos troupes d'un de ses immeubles fût fixée par voie d'arbitrage.

L'autorité militaire et le requérant étaient convenus, dès 1881, de soumettre cette affaire à des arbitres, mais ils n'avaient pu tomber d'accord sur la question de savoir si la sentence à intervenir serait ou non susceptible d'appel. Je suis heureux de pouvoir annoncer à votre Excellence que le Ministre de la Guerre vient de décider que le Jugement du tribunal arbitral aura, conformément à la demande de Mr. Levy, appuyée par les autorités Britanniques, un caractère définitif. Les instructions nécessaires ont été envoyées à M. le Directeur du Génie à Tunis, et j'ai tout lieu de penser que la question sera prochainement tranchée dans la forme qui a été choisie d'un commun accord par les parties intéressées.

Agréas, &c.
(Signé) JULES FERRY.

No. 58

Sir R. Morter to Earl Granville.—(Received March 23.)

(No. 25.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 18, 1885.

CONSIDERABLE excitement has been created here by an incident reported from Alhucemas, an island off the coast of Morocco, belonging to Spain, and used by the Spanish Government as a "presidio" or penal settlement.

The particulars of the incident are as follows.

The mainland facing Alhucemas, on which the plaza depends for its provisions, is occupied by two Arab or Kabyle tribes, the Bocaya and the Benbarriaga, the former friendly, the latter hostile to the Spaniards. A week or so ago a Moor of the Bocaya tribe was robbed by the Benbarriaga of a boat which had been lent him by the Spanish authorities to enable him to bring victuals to their market.

The Governor of Alhucemas, to whom the man applied for redress, had recourse to the method habitually adopted by the Spaniards for parleying with the Benbarriaga, that of hoisting a white flag from the walls of the fortress. The signal was instantly answered by the Arabs, a body of whom, under their Chief, the Kaid El-Sisian, proceeded to the beach to meet the officer sent from the Settlement. The latter explained to the Kaid that the boat which his tribesmen had seized belonged to the Spaniards; and it was arranged that it should be restored to them on the following day. Next day accordingly, a Spanish Adjutant, with an interpreter, and a crew of six sailors, rowed over from Alhucemas to claim it. They were received with every mark of friendship by Sisian, who expressed his desire to confer with the Governor. The latter, on being informed of this at once crossed over, but scarcely had he set his foot on the beach when 300 Moors, who had been placed in ambush in a neighbouring cave, rushed out, armed with clubs and rifles, and attacked the Spaniards. The Governor was injured, but not seriously, several sailors were wounded, and the party escaped with some trouble to their boat amidst a

shower of stones. The Kaid not only did nothing to restrain his followers, but even appeared, it is stated, to be a pleased spectator of the scene.

The incident above described has evoked strong comments from the press of all parties, which demands that prompt satisfaction shall be exacted from the Moorish Government for this outrage to the flag of Spain.

Questions were asked on the subject yesterday in both Houses. In the Senate the Minister of War, in reply to Count Rascon, late Spanish Representative at Constantinople, declared that the newspaper reports of the affair had been officially confirmed, and that the Governor of Alhucemas had been dismissed for having been entrapped into leaving the fortress.

In the Chamber of Deputies Don Francisco Silvela informed Señor Daban that orders had been sent to the Spanish Legation at Tangier to bring the matter to the notice of the Moorish Government. Señor Daban replied that this answer could not satisfy the House. Communications between Tangier and Alhucemas were slow, and it would be simpler to send a man-of-war from one of the Mediterranean ports to exact reparation on the spot.

I think, however, it is not likely that Señor Cánovas will allow himself to be hurried by the clamours of the press, or of an excited public opinion, into any injudicious demonstration in Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. B. D. MORIER.

No. 59.

Earl Granville to Dr. Arpa.

(No. 5.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 23, 1885.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 9 of the 14th instant reporting that Mr. Reichardt, Chaplain to the English Protestant Church at Tunis, had accepted the gift of a portion of the piece of ground adjoining the English church, which formed the subject of litigation between the trustees of the church and M. E. Roquerol, a French citizen, and I have to express to you my satisfaction at the settlement of this long-pending question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 60.

Earl Granville to Dr. Arpa.

(No. 6.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 24, 1885.

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris upon the subject of Mr. M. de J. Levy's claim.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 61.

Earl Granville to Mr. Reade.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 24, 1885.

THE Treasury having granted you a retiring allowance, and your services as Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General in Tunis being about to cease, I take this opportunity of conveying to you the entire approval of Her Majesty's Government of the manner in which you have for so long a period performed the duties which have appertained to your office.

Her Majesty's Government are fully aware of the exceptional circumstances with which you have more recently had to contend in consequence of the new order

* No. 57.

of things which has been established at Tunis, and they fully appreciate your increasing efforts to protect the interests of British subjects in that regency

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 62

Sir J. Pouncefote to Mr. M. de J. Levy.

Sir, Foreign Office, March 24, 1885.
WITH reference to my letter of the 19th January, I am directed by Earl Granville to inform you that Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris reports that orders have been issued by the French authorities which it is believed will insure the speedy settlement of your claim in the manner which has been agreed upon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 63.

Dr. Arpa to Earl Granville.—(Received March 25.)

(No. 10.)

My Lord,

Tunis, March 17, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of a communication addressed to this Office by M. Cambon, dated the 14th instant, asking for an authentic copy of a letter from His Highness the Bey to this Consulate-General, dated 23 Djoumadi-el-Aoual, 1288 (10th August, 1871), in reference to General Hamida Benayad's affair about the Mint question, of which a translation is also respectfully herewith inclosed.

In this particular instance, which may be followed by others of the same nature, I feel it my duty neither to accede to M. Cambon's request nor to decline it before receiving proper instructions on the subject.

I asked General Benayad whether he objected to my complying with M. Cambon's application, and he told me he did. He thinks that this may be intended to create difficulties to him. I do not conceive, however (I may be permitted to say), how such an application could be resisted, nor what reason could be given in so doing.

As there may be, however, grounds for declining M. Cambon's request which may not occur to me, I venture to lay this case before your Lordship, and to request most respectfully that it may please your Lordship to instruct me as to what alternative should be adopted by this Office in the present case.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. ARPA.

Inclosure 1 in No. 63.

M. Cambon to Mr. Reade.

M. le Gérant,

Tunis, le 14 Mars, 1885.

LE Gouvernement Tunisien me fait connaître qu'une lettre signée de Son Altesse le Bey a été adressée au Consulat-Général d'Angleterre à Tunis le 29 Djoumadi-el-Aoual, 1288 (10 Août, 1871), relativement à l'affaire du Général Hamida Ben Ayed au sujet de l'Hotel de la Monnaie.

Le Premier Ministre de Son Altesse me prie de vous demander de vouloir bien faire délivrer une copie certifiée authentique de cette lettre.

Je vous serai obligé de me faire connaître si cette demande vous paraît susceptible d'être favorablement accueillie, et dans ce cas, de vouloir bien m'adresser la copie réclamée par le Premier Ministre de Son Altesse.

Agrez, &c.
(Signé) PAUL CAMBON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 63.

His Highness the Bey to Mr. Wood.

(Translation from the Arabic.)

PRAISE be to God alone.

(Bey's great seal.)

From the servant of God, &c. The Moosheer Mohamed Es Sadak Basha Bey, of the Regency of Tunis.

To the respected, the illustrious, &c., Richard Wood, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul-General in our capital of Tunis.

We have received your letter dated the 22nd June, 1871, respecting the affair of the chosen, the esteemed, the grand officer, our son Sy Hamida Ben Ayed, with reference to the Mint. We have understood all its contents. With regard to what you have stated on the subject of the protection granted to the said (personage). Notwithstanding, it is a matter susceptible of a long discussion, yet there is no necessity for us to engage in it now, but we hope that nothing will ever occur between us and the friendly Government you represent which may in any way hurt their feelings. As to that part of your letter wherein you seek for explanations as to the validity of the Decrees ("Awamar") emanating from us, it is known and certain, and there is no doubt, or particle for doubt, that the Decrees issued by us are valid and good, and it is in the power of no one to revoke them. We have therefore ordered our Prime Minister to carry out the provisions of our Decree in favour of the grand officer, our son Hamida Ben Ayed, regarding the Mint, with only some such modifications of some of its Articles as have been suggested by the public good.

Remain in God's safekeeping.

Written on the 29th Joumadi Ellawel, 1288 (15th August, 1871).

(Countersigned) MUSTAPHA.

No. 64.

Dr. Arpa to Earl Granville.—(Received March 25.)

(Telegraphic)

Tunis, March 20, 1885.

AT M. Cambon's request respectively beg your Lordship for telegraphic reply my despatch No. 10 of 17th instant.

No. 65.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received March 26.)

(No. 20.)

My Lord,

Tangier, March 18, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 108 of the 6th December last, and to your Lordship's despatches No. 48 of the 22nd November, and No. 51 of the 19th December last on the subject of prisons in Morocco, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have received the Reports which the Consular officers at the Moorish ports had been directed to prepare and transmit to me.

The information contained in those Reports confirms the accounts which had been received by Her Majesty's Government. The prisoners, with the exception of those confined at Tangier, are not provided with food by the Government. Prisoners who have means are permitted to purchase the food they may require, or subsist on what their families can provide for them. The poorer prisoners who have no means are taught to make cord, baskets, &c., and the gaolers provide food from the profits realized by the sale of such articles. Those who cannot work subsist on the charity of wealthy prisoners.

Except at Tangier, measures are rarely taken to cleanse the prisons; they are generally described as being filthy in the extreme.

The Consular officers inform me that they have made, as directed, officious and friendly representations to the Governors at their respective residences, and that their observations and remonstrances were taken generally in good part, and assurances were given that better attention would be paid to the cleansing of the prisons, and the

removal of fetters from debtors, but that bread could not be provided for the poorer class of prisoners without special orders from the Sultan.

Under these circumstances, I have addressed a letter to the Vizier, of which I transmit a translation. I have not thought it advisable to resort to language of a more decided character, for it is in the cause of humanity and not of British interests that Her Majesty's Government has officiously intervened. Moreover, if an attempt was made to introduce at once reforms of a more radical character than those proposed, it would probably fail.

I mentioned to my colleagues of France, Germany, and Italy the steps I had taken, and I told them it would be a source of satisfaction to me, and, I was sure, to Her Majesty's Government, if they were disposed to make officious representations of a similar character to this Government, and that no doubt the simultaneous action of the Representatives of four great Powers in a matter which affected the interests of humanity would leave a strong impression, and have a beneficial effect on the minds of the Sultan and his Ministers, and lead them to pay better attention to the suggestions that might be made for mitigating the sufferings of the unfortunate people who are confined in the prisons.

My colleagues readily agreed to my suggestion, and in order that they might be acquainted with the nature of the step I had taken, I communicated to them privately the letter I addressed the Vizier, of which I have inclosed a translation in this despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 65.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Vizier.

(Translation)
(After compliments.)

Tangier, March 13, 1885.

THE attention of Her Majesty's Government and of the public having been called, by the reports of travellers and others, to the sufferings of their fellow-creatures who are confined in Moorish prisons, I have been directed to bring, in a friendly manner, under the notice of His Shereefian Majesty, the state of the prisons and the treatment of prisoners, as they are convinced that His Majesty, actuated by feelings of humanity and commiseration for his subjects, will not allow that those who have no means of purchasing food should be left to starve, and that the prisons should remain in their present filthy state, when such evils could be rectified, if proper regulations were established by His Majesty's officers.

The attention of His Shereefian Majesty had been drawn some years ago by the German Minister and by myself to the dirty state of the prison at Tangier, and also to the fact that the poorer class of prisoners were frequently left without food or water, and His Majesty was pleased to issue orders that bread should be provided for the prisoners, and that the prisons should be cleansed, which orders have been carried into execution.

Since the receipt of instructions from Her Majesty's Government, I had directed British Consular officers at the Moorish ports to address themselves in an officious and friendly manner to the Governors at their respective residences, with the view of obtaining some mitigation of the evils complained of. The majority of the Governors entered good-will, and promised to meet the wishes I had expressed, as far as was in their power; but they informed the Consular officers that, without orders from His Shereefian Majesty they could not provide bread to the poorer class of prisoners, who are left to starve, depending for their existence solely on the charity of their fellow-prisoners.

Under these circumstances, I have to request that you submit, for His Majesty's friendly consideration, the adoption of the following measures:—

1. That the Governors of towns, or other officers, be ordered to provide a sufficiency of bread and water for prisoners who have not the means of purchasing food for their maintenance.
2. That orders be issued to the Governors to make arrangements that prisoners cleanse every day the cells or rooms in which they are confined.
3. That a few days before each feast the interior of the prisons be whitewashed.
4. That irons should not be placed on persons confined for debt, and that, when arrangements can be made for their detention in rooms or cells separate from criminals, it be effected.

The promulgation of orders to this effect by His Shereefian Majesty will not only be

considered by his subjects and by the public in general as an act of humanity and benevolence proceeding from the religious and charitable sentiments which distinguish His Majesty, but it will also be a proof to Her Majesty's Government that His Shereefian Majesty is desirous of paying attention to counsels and suggestions which are dictated solely by feelings of friendship towards His Majesty and his subjects.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 66.

Earl Granville to Dr. Arpa.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, March 26, 1885, 4.15 P.M.

YOU may give copy of document asked for by M. Cambon.

No. 67.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Dr. Mansfield.

Foreign Office, March 26, 1885.

Sir, YOUR letter of the 10th January, inclosing copy of the address presented to Mr. Consul-General Reade by the Anglo-Maltese Colony at Tunis upon the occasion of Mr. Reade's departure from his post on leave of absence, was duly received at this Office, and I am directed by Earl Granville to say that his Lordship has received with much satisfaction this testimony to the esteem in which Mr. Reade was held by the British subjects settled in Tunis.

It is with great regret that Lord Granville has just heard of Mr. Reade's unexpected decease.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 68.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 14.)

Foreign Office, March 30, 1885.

Sir, YOUR despatch No. 90 of the 18th instant has been received, and I have to state to you that the action which you have taken with a view to effect an improvement in the condition of Moorish prisons, and in the treatment of the prisoners confined in them, is approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 69.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received March 31.)

(No. 21.)

Tangier, March 28, 1885.

My Lord, THE Spanish Journal "Liberal" of the 17th instant reports that a very serious outrage was committed on the 8th instant by a Chief named Siman, of the Reefian tribe of Beni Unagol, on the Governor of the Spanish fortress of Allucemas and a party of officers, who had been invited to a parley on the mainland regarding some dispute which had arisen between them. Flags of truce were hoisted by each party.

On the Governor and party landing an ambuscade of 300 Reefians rushed out attacking them with fire-arms and sticks. The Governor was severely beaten, and others also wounded, but no one was killed.

On the return of the Governor to the island fortress shells were fired upon the Reefians.

The Spanish Minister, M. Diodado, informs me that he has received a telegram which confirms these tidings.

I have requested the Acting Minister, Hadj Mohammed Torres, to write to the Sultan, and urge that immediate steps be taken to punish the Reefian Chief, and others who took part in this outrage, and that full satisfaction be afforded to the Spanish Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

P.S.—I shall to-day address a letter to the Vizier in the same sense.
J. H. D. H.

No. 70.

Sir J. Lee to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(Received March 31.)

Dear Lord Fitzmaurice, 56, Mosley Street, Manchester, March 27, 1885.
I INCLOSE a newspaper cutting, which states that the Spaniards who landed on the neck of land betwixt the sea and the River Ouro, and who hoisted the Spanish flag and declared the country annexed to Spain, have been killed. When the Chief of the expedition was in London we warned him of the danger his countrymen would be subjected to if they landed and attempted to interfere in any territory of the Chief of Adrar. This Chief informed our servants under no circumstances would he allow Spaniards to trade and reside in his territories, at the same time, he invited us to build a factory and organize a trade route from Timbuctoo to the Ouro. While we were about it the Spaniards took possession of the river.

I doubtless shall have more information by mail, which shall be forwarded to you.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) J. C. LEE.

Inclosure in No. 70.

Newspaper Extract.

Madrid, Thursday.

A SPANISH TRADING SETTLEMENT IN AFRICA DESTROYED.—A telegram from the Canary Islands, dated to-day, states that intelligence has been received there from the new Spanish colony at Gold River, on the West Coast of Africa, announcing that the Spanish trading establishments there have been destroyed by the natives, who killed six Spaniards and carried off many others as prisoners. The Superintendent of the district was absent at the time.

No. 71

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 22)

My Lord,

Tangier, March 26, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 11 of the 5th instant, transmitting copy of a letter addressed to your Lordship by the Anglo-Jewish Association and the London Committee of Deputies, containing renewed representations, and pressing for the removal of the Governor of Demnat, stating that they had received trustworthy information proving that Jewish women of Demnat have been violated, men tortured, and property pilaged and destroyed. Your Lordship directs that I should take such further steps in this case as I may deem most expedient, with the view to the prevention of outrage.

In a separate despatch I am about to address your Lordship, I shall make known the result of the inquiry effected by the Commissioners appointed by the Sultan, Cid Bukeker and Señor Coreos, into the conduct of the Governor of Demnat, and the steps which I have taken, in concert with the French and Italian Ministers, to settle this question in the manner we have considered would be most expedient for the interests of the unfortunate Jews.

It is evident that the Anglo-Jewish Association, the London Committee of Deputies, and the Alliance Israélite of Paris have received untruthful and exaggerated accounts of the ill treatment suffered by the Jews of Demnat. Certain interested parties at Tangier,

such as the editors of local journals, who, I understand, have been the advisers of the Demnat deputation composed of thirteen Jews, have sent, or have caused the members of the deputation to transmit, false and exaggerated reports, and have also urged the deputation to insist on pecuniary compensation, which would lead me and my colleagues to conclude they hoped to be rewarded by obtaining a share.

In proof of the mendacious character of the accounts sent to Europe, or published in the papers, I give the following instance.

When the Jewish deputation was brought into the presence of the French and Italian Ministers and myself, they were put the following question: Is it true that Jewish women have been violated? They replied distinctly that no women had been violated; that one woman named Freha Bint Moses-el-Baz, in the tumult that had taken place when the Jews fled to the sanctuary, had been beaten, thrown down, and so severely injured that she died from the ill-treatment she had received; and that a Jew named Isaac Cohen, upon whom fetters had been placed, when in sanctuary, by the brutal soldiers of the Governor, had died from the effects of having been struck with the iron when he resisted their being placed on his legs. The iron cut some veins, and he died from loss of blood. This was an act of horrid brutality; but it ought hardly to create surprise that two unfortunate Jews have been thus murdered in this barbarous country, when we have read the frightful accounts of what took place in Russia and Hungary, of wholesale slaughter, violence, and robbery.

Your Lordship will have learnt from my despatch No. 24 of this date the reasons why I have not thought it advisable to continue to insist on the removal of the Governor of Demnat on account of the outrage and robbery alleged to have been committed on Abithol, the Jewish agent of a British subject. The story of Abithol is declared to be false.

The French and Italian Ministers are also of opinion that the demand for the removal of the Governor should not be made, as it might be prejudicial to the interests of the Jews.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 72.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 23.)

My Lord,

Tangier, March 26, 1885.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 11 of the 5th instant, and to that which I addressed your Lordship this day (No. 22), I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have received from Cid Bukeker, the Commissioner appointed by the Sultan to make an inquiry at Demnat, into the accusation preferred by the Jews against the Governor, a detailed account of his proceedings, and a copy of his long Report to the Sultan, and of his correspondence with the Vizier and with the Governor of Demnat.

As I have only one assistant in the Chancery, and as these documents contain upwards of fifty pages folio writing, I will not transmit them unless called for by your Lordship, but I inclose translations of the following documents.—

Letter from Vizier, dated the 9th March, 1885, informing me that the Sultan requests that I induce the Jewish deputation now at Tangier to return to Demnat, and giving assurances that they will be well treated.

Translation of the instructions sent by the Vizier to Cid Bukeker, on his appointment by the Sultan as Commissioner, showing that His Sherccelian Majesty was desirous to learn the truth.

Translation of a letter from two of the Chief Rabbis of the city of Morocco, thanking me for having sent Cid Bukeker to Demnat.

Translation of a letter from a Jew liberated from prison at Demnat by Cid Bukeker thanking the Italian Minister and myself.

Translation of Edict of Sultan regarding treatment of Jews.

I will now attempt to give a compendious narrative of the proceedings of Cid Bukeker, gathered from his Reports to the Sultan, to the Vizier, and to myself.

On Bukeker's arrival at Demnat he had interviews with the Governor and the Jewish community. He brought about a reconciliation between them, and obtained liberation of Jews who had been imprisoned. The Governor engaged to act justly towards the Jews, and the latter to pay taxes and other regular contributions to the Government.

The origin of the dispute between the Governor and the Jews was, that the Jewish tanners had objected to deliver to the local authorities the skins required of them according to the established usage. The plea put forward by the tanners for the non-delivery of the skins was, that the officer appointed to pay their value did not do so. The Jews had led the Governor to believe that they were protected, and resisted payment of the established contributions for night guards, &c. The Governor on discovering that they had not foreign protection indulged in acts of violence, imprisoning and ill-treating them.

The Moors in Demnat and neighbouring country learning that the Governor no longer protected the Jews, confiscated movable and immovable property mortgaged in their hands by the Jews, and some shops were robbed.

The Jews sent a deputation to the Sultan, as advised by the Italian Minister, to complain of the Governor, and also a deputation to Tangier.

Two officials of high rank were dispatched by the Sultan to Demnat to investigate the complaint, and to convey a Sheressian Decree to the Governor regarding the privileges which Jews were to enjoy.

On arrival of the Commissioners at Demnat the Jews were enjoined to leave the Sanctuary to hear the lecture of the Decree. A tumult arose in consequence of its having been alleged that some Jews had made use of opprobrious expressions regarding the Governor. A few of the Jews who had taken an active part in favour of the Governor were stoned by their coreligionists, and some stones struck and injured Mohammedans, though Cid Bubeke declares they were not purposely cast at the latter. A number of Jews fled to the Sanctuary. A woman and a man died from injuries received from the brutality of the Governor's dependents.

The Jewish partisans of the Governor gave evidence to the officials sent by the Sultan that the Jews had no ground for complaint against the Governor. These officials are said to have received large bribes from the Governor to report favourably to the Sultan regarding his conduct. On the other hand, when an attempt was made to bring about an understanding between the Governor and the community, a Jewish Rabbi from Jerusalem urged the Jews to resist the authority of the Governor, and to petition the Alliance Israélite for his removal.

Cid Bubeke was offered presents both by the Jewish community and by the Governor but declined to receive them, and left Demnat for Morocco after effecting a reconciliation.

I communicated these Reports to the Italian Minister, who, as your Lordship is aware, has acted in concert with me. We agreed that it was desirable that I should communicate them also to M. Feraud, the French Minister, who had informed me that he had received a deputation from the Alliance Israélite at Paris, and from the Jews of Demnat at Tangier, asking for his intervention.

I made known to M. Feraud all that had taken place, and the nature of the instructions I had received from your Lordship. I informed him that M. Scovasso and I proposed to have a meeting, at which the deputation of Demnat Jews would be requested to attend, to hear what they had to say, and to recommend them to go to the Court at Fez, and thence to Demnat, under our safeguard and on the assurance we had received from the Sultan that justice would be done to them.

M. Feraud at once offered to attend, and to act in concert with us, which he has done to our entire satisfaction.

The meeting took place on the 17th instant. The deputation of Demnat Jews, consisting of thirteen persons, consented to be guided by our advice, and to listen no longer to those who had prompted them to put forward unreasonable demands.

With the view of gaining their confidence, it was agreed that they should select a spokesman, and that the Governor of Demnat should be informed that this person was placed under the special protection of the Sultan, and of the Representatives of Great Britain, France, and Italy, with orders to report all that took place at Demnat on their return.

The Vizier, as will be learnt from his letter to me (an identic letter was addressed to M. Scovasso), had informed us that one of the Commissioners, M. Corcos, had been selected by the Sultan to return with the Jewish deputation to Demnat, to assist them in effecting a settlement of all questions with the Governor. As we had reasons to know that M. Corcos was biased in favour of the Governor, and might therefore not be disposed to take active steps to obtain justice, we have requested that His Sheressian Majesty should again appoint Cid Bubeke to proceed to Demnat; and I have given directions to him to act with energy and decision.

I transmit a translation of the identic letter addressed by the French and Italian

Ministers and myself to the Vizier, which will best apprise your Lordship of the steps we have taken, and I trust will meet with your Lordship's approval.

In a separate despatch* I have informed your Lordship why I have desisted from any further demand for the removal of the Governor of Demnat.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

P.S.—The Rabbi David Amar, who has been selected by the Demnat deputation to be their spokesman at the Court and at Demnat, and two other Elders named Yakub Kados and Reuben El-Maich, called to thank me for having requested the Sultan to send Cid Bubeke again to Demnat, as they informed me they have more confidence in his action than in that of Corcos. They expressed themselves well satisfied with all that had been done for them.

J. H. D. H.

P.S.—I have the honour to inclose translation of a letter addressed by the Vizier to Cid Bubeke expressing the Sultan's approval of his conduct.

J. H. D. H.

Inclosure 1 in No. 72.

The Vizier to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)
(After usual compliments.) 21st Jumad I, 1302 (March 9, 1881).
BUBEKER AL GHANJOWY and Joshua, son of Haim Corcos, who, as we informed you, were sent to Demnat to inquire into the question between the Jews of that place and their Governor, have reported to us that they brought about a reconciliation between them (the Jews) and their Governor, and have settled all the questions and disputes between them, and have brought back all the Jews that had fled to the neighbouring tribes, and placed them in security and tranquilized them.

Our lord the Sultan has ordered us to write and inform you of this, and (to request) that you send their brethren, who are in Tangier, to the Court under promise of safety, that they may be sent on to their Governor in charge of Haim Corcos, who will make their peace with the Governor and will enjoin him to treat them well and in the kindest manner.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN ALARBY BEN AL MOKHTAR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 73.

The Vizier to Cid Bubeke.

(Traduction.)
(Après les compliments d'usage.) 30 Rabia II, 1302 (February 16, 1880).
LES Juifs de Demnat et leur Gouverneur sont en désaccord, et chacun d'eux a écrit plaint de l'autre à Sa Majesté Shériffienne, de sorte qu'elle ne sait pas à quoi s'en tenir, et ne peut pas savoir de quel côté se trouve la raison. Notre maître (que Dieu protège) nous a ordonné de vous écrire de vous rendre en personne à Demnat pour éteindre le foyer de la discorde, et rétablir le calme et tranquillité parmi eux. Une fois que vous aurez obtenu ce résultat, vous ferez une enquête pour connaître les injustices dont les Juifs sont victimes, et de quels actes ils se rendent coupables eux-mêmes, et connaître aussi les torts que souffre le Gouverneur et les injustices qu'il commet. Aussitôt que vous aurez assuré de la vérité vraie des choses vous nous en informerez pour soumettre vos informations à Sa Majesté afin qu'elle décide ce qu'il y aura à faire.

Notre Seigneur vous a choisi à cet effet connaissant votre loyauté et votre zèle
Paix et Amitié!

(Signé) MOHAMMED BEN ALARBY BEN AL MOKHTAR

Inclosure 3 in No. 72.

Morocco Rabbi to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Traduction.)

Morocco, le 1^{er} Adar, 5645 (February 15, 1885).

NOUS remercions de tout notre cœur votre Excellence pour tout ce que vous avez fait dans la question des Israélites de Demnat. Que Dieu prolonge votre vie en récompense du bien que vous faites en protégeant le monde contre les injustices !

Le Sieur Makhluf Elharar, qui a accompagné Cid Bubeke à Demnat, nous a informé du bon accueil que les Israélites de cette ville ont fait à Cid Bubeke, que celui-ci a parlé avec le Gouverneur en leur faveur, qu'il a constaté la vérité de la question, et a fait retourner le calme et la tranquillité dans le cœur des Israélites qui se trouvaient à Demnat et de ceux qui s'étaient enfuis.

Cette nouvelle nous a beaucoup rejouis, nous nous sommes présentés à Cid Bubeke pour lui exprimer nos remerciements, et nous remercions de tout notre cœur votre Excellence du choix que vous avez fait de Cid Bubeke pour traiter cette question, et notre joie sera plus grande encore quand nous verrons terminée cette affaire par l'entremise de votre Excellence.

Grand Rabbini du Maroc,

(Signé)

MAKHLUF BEN MOHA NIMON BEN DAVIDNION.

Je remercie M. le Ministre pour tout le bien qu'a fait Cid Bubeke.

Rabbini Marocain,

(Signé)

MAKHLUF EL HARAR.

Inclosure 4 in No. 72.

Moses Bendahan to certain Tanager Jews.

(Traduction.)

Sedat 25, 5645 (February 10, 1885).

SACHEZ qu'aussitôt que Cid Bubeke a reçu votre lettre il eût la bonté d'envoyer un courrier à ce Gouverneur, et celui-ci me fit sortir de la prison sans rien payer. Que Dieu vous comble de ses bienfaits ! Je vous prie de saluer de ma part leurs Excellences les Ministres de la Grande-Bretagne et d'Italie, et que le bon Dieu les comble de ses félicités et les protège !

C'était le 21 de ce mois (8 Février) que j'ai été mis en liberté.

(Signé)

MOSES BENDAHAN.

Inclosure 5 in No. 72.

Shereefian Decree in favour of Demnat Jews.

(Translation.)

BY our present Decree (which may God elevate) it is made known that we have suppressed all the vexations to which the Jews of Demnat were exposed on the part of their Governor, viz. :—

1. Obliging them to work on days kept sacred in their religion
2. Obliging them to clean all places where dirt is collected
3. Obliging them to serve as porters, and carry weights on their backs.
4. Obliging them to execute the work of their trades without payment.
5. Obliging their women to wash without their consent and without payment.
6. Obliging them to sell their merchandise and other goods on credit and at half their value.
7. Obliging them to receive produce, such as oil, &c., when prices are low, and making them pay the increased price when prices have risen.
8. Obliging them to furnish their transport animals without the consent of the owners, and without payment.
9. Obliging them to take bad and depreciated money in exchange for current money.
10. Obliging them to receive copper coins at 13 ducats to the dollar.
11. Obliging them to pay the dollar at 11 ducats.
12. Obliging them to give dyed wools gratuitously.

13. Obliging them to give tanned skins for raw skins.

14. Obliging them to give the wool of their flocks against their will.

15. Obliging them to keep their bedding at the disposal of the guests (of the Governor).

16. Imposing upon their brethren of the village of Tamsait another authority than his own.

17. Violating established usages to their prejudice, and obliging them to give that which formerly they were not bound to give.

We order their Governor, our servant Hadj Jilaly, the Demnati, to suppress all the above-mentioned (acts of injustice), to treat them with kindness, to put a bridle to injustice and oppression, and to treat them in all matters and in every respect, without the least distinction, in the same manner as Jews of other cities are treated.

We have also ordered (the said Israelites) not to transgress the limits assigned to them, and to observe the engagements which they have accepted.

Peace!

25 Kaakâh, 1301 (September 15, 1884)

Inclosure 6 in No. 72.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Vizier.

(Traduction.)

Le 8 Jumad I, 1302 (le 26 Mars, 1885).

(Après les compliments d'usage.)

VOUS connaissez d'une manière trop précise la question relative aux Israélites de Demnat et vous avez suivi trop attentivement toutes les phases qu'elle a traversées pour que je m'appesantisse sur les détails sans nombre d'un incident regrettable que, d'accord avec mes collègues de France et d'Italie, je tiens vivement à voir clore dans un sens satisfaisant et conforme à l'esprit de justice dont Sa Majesté Chérifiennne a toujours été animée à l'égard de tous les sujets Marocains sans distinction d'origine ni de religion. Il est à notre connaissance que vous avez reçu le Rapport où les Commissaires de Sa Majesté le Sultan ont exposé les faits sur lesquels ils avaient mission d'enquêter. Aussi est-ce ce document même que mes collègues et moi avons la volonté d'invoquer à l'appui des demandes que nous tenons à présenter à Sa Majesté le Sultan en faveur de la communauté Israélite de Demnat.

Les allégations de la première Commission d'Enquête relatives aux actes de révolte et aux propos séditieux et discordeux dont les Israélites de Demnat se seraient rendus coupables envers le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Chérifiennne tombent d'elles-mêmes devant l'opinion émise par les Commissaires. En effet, les Israélites, divisés en deux camps, les uns manifestant en faveur du Gouverneur, les autres contre, en sont venus aux mains, et si des Musulmans ont, comme l'affirme la première enquête, été blessés à coup de pierre, on ne saurait accuser les Israélites d'avoir agi contre eux avec préméditation, c'est ce qui ressort clairement de la seconde enquête.

J'ajouterai, et en cela je suis du même avis que mes collègues de France et d'Italie, qu'il n'est pas dans le caractère des Israélites de se porter à de semblables violences vis-à-vis des Musulmans, qu'ils redoutent, surtout dans une ville de l'intérieur.

Il est évident pour mes collègues et moi, et nous sommes persuadés que vous partagerez notre conviction, que les Israélites ont été lésés sérieusement ; aussi venons nous vous demander de la manière la plus instante de vouloir bien supplier Sa Majesté Chérifiennne de faire proscrire au Gouverneur de Demnat d'avoir à procéder sans retard à la restitution aux Israélites de tout ce qui leur a été arraché de vive force, et au moyen de faux documents, tant comme propriétés foncières que comme marchandises et bestiaux.

Les Israélites soumettront à Sa Majesté une note identique à celle qui nous a été remise sous serment à mes collègues et à moi, au sujet des propriétés et des biens meubles dont on les a dépouillés. Les titres originaux relatifs aux immeubles et aux bestiaux sont entre leurs mains, et ils les produiront devant qui de droit.

Il a été dûment constaté qu'une femme Juive au nom de Freha Elbaz, et un Israélite nommé Isaac Cohen, sont morts à la suite des violences dont ils ont été victimes de la part des gens du Gouverneur, aussi mes collègues et moi espérons fermement que Sa Majesté Chérifiennne intimera au Gouverneur l'ordre d'indemniser les familles des victimes, ainsi que Sa Majesté par un sentiment bien naturel de pitié et par esprit d'équité a bien voulu faire précédemment dans des cas analogues.

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Nous insistons énergiquement pour que le Décret gracieusement rendu en faveur des Israélites le 29 Knadeh, 1301 (19 Septembre, 1884), par Sa Majesté Chériffienne soit exécuté d'une manière intelligente et scrupuleuse par le Gouverneur de Demnat.

La députation de cette localité, qui se trouve en ce moment à Tanger, se rendra directement à Fez pour présenter cette lettre à la Cour; mais nous désirons prévenir les nouveaux conflits qui pourraient dans l'avenir se produire entre le Gouverneur de Demnat et la communauté Israélite, et aussi d'inspirer la confiance aux Israélites, qui, sur notre conseil, vont rentrer à Demnat, se conformant ainsi au désir que Sa Majesté nous a fait exprimer, à mes collègues et à moi.

Dans ce but nous avons pensé qu'il était sage de choisir Bubeker Ben-el-Bashir, qui passe pour le plus intelligent et le plus capable de conduire à bien toute cette affaire, afin qu'il serve d'intermédiaire entre le Gouverneur et la communauté Israélite dans toutes les questions qui viendraient à se produire ultérieurement, et nous prions Sa Majesté de vouloir bien confirmer ce choix, et de nommer en même temps un mandataire Israélite, nommé David Amar, qui sera placé sous sa haute protection, et sous celle des Ministres de la Grande-Bretagne, de France, et d'Italie. Il importe également de faire savoir au Gouverneur de Demnat que ce mandataire a pour mission de renseigner Sa Majesté et les Ministres de la Grande-Bretagne, de France, et d'Italie, sur toutes les mesures qui seront prises pour la restitution des propriétés, relativement à l'observation du Décret Impérial, et à la ligne de conduite suivie par les autorités de Demnat à l'égard de la communauté Israélite.

D'après la lettre que vous avez écrite à moi et au Ministre d'Italie vous aviez décidé de faire accompagner les Israélites jusqu'à Demnat par Corcos, l'un des deux Commissaires de Sa Majesté le Sultan. Mes collègues et moi adhérons à cette combinaison, pourvu qu'il soit aidé dans sa mission par Bubeker Ben-el-Bashir. Ils seront donc tous deux chargés d'aplanir de concert avec le Gouverneur les différences existantes, et de faire comprendre à celui-ci que toute infraction commise par lui à l'endroit du Décret Impérial et tout déni de justice seraient sévèrement punis par Sa Majesté.

C'est d'ailleurs dans un but de conciliation, et par sentiment de sincère amitié pour Sa Majesté le Sultan et son pays que nous nous sommes réunis, mes collègues et moi, et nous sommes décidés à faire auprès de vous cette démarche, dont nous attendons les meilleurs résultats.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY

Inclosure 7 in No. 72.

The Vixen to Cid Bubeker Ben-el-Bashir.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

24 Rabia II, 1302 (February 10, 1885).

WE have received your letter and Report on the Demnat affair, and the steps taken by you to bring about a settlement and tranquillity.

We made known all you wrote to our lord the Sultan, who has had it under consideration, and His Majesty approves your conduct, and has called God's blessing upon you.

Peace!

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN ALARBY BEN AL MOKHTAR.

No. 73.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 24.)

My Lord,

Tangier, March 26, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 8 of the 10th January, reporting an outrage and robbery alleged to have been committed on a Jew named Abitbol, the commercial agent of a British subject, I have the honour to transmit translation of the Report of Cid Bubeker, in which he declares that there is no foundation for this accusation.

I have directed Cid Bubeker, on his return to Demnat, to obtain notarial evidence of Moors and Jews.

Under these circumstances, whilst I await information, I have desisted from putting forward any further demand for satisfaction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY

Inclosure in No. 73.

Report of Cid Bubeker.

(Translation.)

NOUS avons fait une enquête sur l'affaire du Juif, Jacob Bolbol, agent du négociant Lapeen. Nous nous sommes renseignés là-dessus chez les Musulmans et chez les Juifs, et il nous en est résulté que ce que le dit agent prétend est entièrement dénué de fondement, et c'est un mensonge forgé par lui.

Voici l'affaire.—

Le dit agent avait acheté quatre charges d'huile de quelques Musulmans de Demnat dans l'été dernier, et il ne leur en avait pas payé le montant. Après il porta cette huile à Casablanca, et à l'époque dans laquelle on bat les grains il fit retour au pays des Saraganas portant avec lui quelques marchandises. A son arrivée, il trouva que les Juifs de Demnat étaient en pleine discorde avec leur Gouverneur, et les Juifs l'informèrent que celui-ci demandait de lui, et avait l'intention de l'arrêter. Le dit agent s'étant assuré que cela était vrai, qu'effectivement le Gouverneur avait demandé après lui plusieurs fois, et que les propriétaires de l'huile s'étaient plaints de lui au Gouverneur, il resta dans le pays des Saraganas dans une localité dite Erij jusqu'au Mercredi, jour de marché dans le pays des Saraganas. Alors il s'en alla au marché, vendit ses marchandises, en encaissa le montant, et se dirigea sur Casablanca. En quittant le marche il disait aux gens, chemin faisant, que les hommes et les nègres du Gouverneur de Demnat l'avaient volé.

Le Gouverneur ayant appris cela envoya des gens à lui dans le pays des Saraganas et obtinrent une déclaration constatant que le dit Juif ne s'était pas même approché de Demnat. Ceci nous l'avons entendu de la bouche des Juifs et des Musulmans, et nous avons fait là-dessus une enquête autant minutieuse que possible. Le dit individu ayant trouvé la confusion et la discorde entre les Juifs et le Gouverneur, voulut profiter de l'occasion, et forger l'histoire qui fait l'objet de sa plainte pour voler l'argent du négociant qu'il représente.

Nous vous informons de ceci entre nous, et secrètement, car nous n'en avons pas informé la Cour de Sa Majesté Chériffienne.

No. 74.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 25.)

My Lord,

Tangier, March 27, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 19 of the 2nd instant, reporting the demand for satisfaction that had been put forward by Admiral English, commanding the United States' frigate "Lancaster," on account of the imprisonment of two Moorish agents employed by a United States' merchant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I understand the agents have been liberated, and the question has been settled amicably.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 75.

Sir R. Morier to Earl Granville.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 30.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 29, 1885.

THE factory of the Spanish-African Company at Rio d'Oro (Sahara), which, as I had the honour to report in my despatch No. 144 of last year, was placed under Spanish protection in December, has been attacked and pillaged by a body of Moors from the interior. Full details are as yet wanting, but it would appear, from information received from the Canaries, that on the 6th instant some 150 Sahara Moors (according to other

accounts a much smaller number), with sixty camels laden with wool, arrived at the Settlement, to all appearance for trading purposes.

They inquired for Señor Bonelli, a Spanish officer, who, from his having been brought up at Tangier, has a thorough knowledge of the language and people of Western Barbary, and has taken a prominent part in the enterprises of Spanish explorers on the Sahara coast. To him they expressed a wish to exchange their wools, &c., for the Spanish stores on sale in the factory.

Communications were opened with the Spanish merchants, but in the midst of the transaction, the Moors attacked the Spaniards, who had neglected the precaution of providing themselves with arms, and killed several, including two sailors of the schooner "Ceres," who happened to be on shore. The settlers, traders and labourers, fled to their houses, but having no means of defence, were unable to withstand the attack of the Moors. They were captured, several of them carried into the interior, and the rest only allowed to embark for the Canaries, after having been compelled to destroy the buildings they had begun to erect on the coast. The Moors carried off all the stores they could lay hands on, including a number of Remingtons, besides the cargo of the schooner "Ides," which was lying off the factory.

The news of the destruction of this Settlement, from which so much had been expected from Spain, produced a painful impression here. Speaking on the subject in the Chamber of Deputies, Señor Cánovas gently censured the negligence and over-confidence of the colonists, who, unlike the American explorers of the sixteenth century, had not borne in mind that trading factories in a barbarous country required an armed force for their defence.

At the same time, whilst asserting the resolve of the Government to protect and encourage Spanish colonization in those regions, he pointed out the impossibility of exacting reparation from savages, without a regular Government and with no vulnerable point at which they could be attacked. Aggressive operations were out of the question; if, however, the Company were prepared to resume and continue the work begun by them, the Government would send an armed force to the coast to protect them. These assurances were received with applause on all sides of the House, and the patriotic and statesmanlike language of the Prime Minister is the object of general approval.

Previous to the attack described above, the Colony of Rio d'Oro appears to have been in a fairly flourishing condition. It numbered about twenty-five families, mostly engaged in the coast fisheries, and possessed some substantial buildings, including a partially constructed "casa fuerte" or fortified stone house for the factory's head-quarters, which, when completed, would, according to Señor Cánovas, have been "capable of resisting all the Moors of the Sahara."

The relations with the tribes of the interior were apparently peaceful and even friendly.

I may add that the Alhucemas incident, reported in my despatch No. 25 of the 19th instant, is, as far as official Moorish assurances go, in a fair way of settlement.

The Shercehan Government has promised to punish the offending tribe, and to afford the fullest satisfaction to the aggrieved Spanish authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. B. D. MORIER.

No. 76.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 2, 11 P.M.)

(Telegraphic)

Tangier, April 2, 1885, 6 P.M.

REFERRING to my despatch No. 21: On demand of Spanish Minister batteries of town did salute the flag. Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed regret outrage on Governor.

No. 77.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 15.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 2, 1885.

YOUR despatch No. 31 of the 23rd March upon the subject of the recent attack by a Reeslan Chief upon the Governor of the Spanish fortress of Alhucemas and a

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party of Spanish officers has been received, and I have to state that the advice which you have tendered to the Moorish Government, to afford full satisfaction to the Spanish Government for this outrage, is approved.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 78.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 16.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 4, 1885.

YOUR despatch No. 23 of the 26th ultimo, reporting further respecting the case of the Jews of Denmat has been received, and I have to state to you that your proceedings in the matter are approved.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 79.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 6.)

(No. 20.)

My Lord,

Tangier, March 30, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 13 of the 18th instant, transmitting copy of a letter from the Colonial Office, forwarding copy of a despatch from the Governor of Gibraltar upon the subject of the disposal of certain property claimed by the Sultan of Morocco since 1820, and directing me to endeavour to obtain the assent of the Sultan to the settlement of this question on the basis recommended by the Governor of Gibraltar.

I have perused with attention the précis, drawn up at the Office of the Colonial Secretary of Gibraltar, of the correspondence which has taken place during a long course of years between Her Majesty's Government and the Governor of Gibraltar, on the subject of the property in question.

I learn, therefore, that the Moorish Consul took possession, in the name of the Sultan, of the property of a Moorish subject, named Haret Benimer Heggia, who died intestate at Gibraltar in the year 1820, and that this was effected with the sanction on the part of the authorities, letters of administration being granted in July 1821 by the Court of Civil Pious to two Moors, under the auspices of the Moorish Consul, in the account of the Sultan, who, according to the law of Morocco, becomes the heir of a subject dying intestate, and that the Moorish Consul claimed the right, by Treaty, to dispose of all property of the deceased.

Article XIII of the Treaty of 1801, between Great Britain and Morocco, cedes the right to British subjects. This stipulation is more explicitly given in Article XVIII of the Treaty of 1856. I know not, however, on what grounds the rights of reciprocity, in this instance, have been claimed by the Moorish Government, and whether it might have been based on some Arabic version of an Article in possession of the Moorish Consul at that time, at any rate, the claim does not appear to have been contested in 1820 or 1821 by the Gibraltar authorities, whilst the Consul appears to have existed—as, indeed, this Government generally consider that they are entitled to claim reciprocity of concessions made by Treaty to British subjects.

Be that as it may, the Sultan can claim a prescriptive right from the fact of his having been left in possession of the disputed property for sixty-five years. Moreover, when, in 1826, a question as to His Majesty's rights was raised, the Secretary of State implicitly acknowledged that the property belonged to the Sultan by having proposed, should the sale of the property be effected, to deduct therefrom the value of certain stores supplied to His Majesty, and then again, in 1828, when the Secretary of State had directed that the sale of the property should take place, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Tangier was instructed to apprise the Moorish Government that the property of the late Moorish subject Heggia would be sold in order to satisfy certain claims of British subjects upon the Moorish Government, which had not been adjusted, as proposed, by the Sultan, leading to the inference that it was considered to be His Majesty's property, and that the value when realized was to be passed to his credit.

In 1840 the Secretary of State decided that no further action should be taken with

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regard to this property, as "it was not considered worth while, at the risk of displeasing the Sultan and endangering the supply of provisions to Her Majesty's garrison, to assert the right of the Crown to a property of little value, and that the motives for this forbearance were unimpaired by the lapse of time."

In 1860, when the question was again raised, I expressed the opinion that it would be impolitic to deprive the Sultan of the right of inheritance to property of a deceased Moorish subject, and that it would be very inexpedient, for political reasons, to revive this claim. I have not altered that opinion, especially as I understand that the property claimed by the Crown is comparatively of little value.

The Sultan would be extremely surprised, and no doubt would feel injured if I made known to him that Her Majesty's Government intended to take possession of this property, even though the Moorish Consul were allowed to remain as tenant of the house he occupies on payment of a small rent. Dissatisfaction would no doubt also be felt on my making this known, at the present time, when His Majesty had lately made a gift of a piece of land to Her Majesty's Government where the British chapel has been erected, and had also a few years ago granted a burial ground for the Christians at the request of myself and other foreign Representatives, and had bought a garden for 50*l* to be enabled to make the gift.

Several of the houses occupied by British Vice-Consuls on the coast are the property of the Sultan, for which they pay in general a very low rent. His Majesty might decide on taking possession of these, and put the tenants, to say the least, to the greatest inconvenience.

I have seen the property in the south-west corner of City Mill Lane of Gibraltar, it certainly is in a very unsatisfactory state, and an eyesore, as Sir John Adye describes it, in the main street.

With due deference to your Lordship's better judgment for the solution of this question, I would suggest that the Sultan be informed that the Crown has for many years contested the right of the Moorish Government to retain the property in question, but that out of consideration for the mutual good-will existing between the two countries, Her Majesty's Government had left the Moorish Consul in undisturbed possession, that taking in consideration that the house in the main street is the Consul's residence, Her Majesty's Government are disposed to allow him to remain as tenant, so long as it is made use of as the Moorish Consulate and is kept in a proper state of repair, but that the Mill Lane property can no longer be allowed to remain an eyesore, and therefore it will be disposed of by public auction or otherwise, and the proceeds placed in my hands at the disposal of the Sultan, and that this is done as an act of courtesy to the Sultan on the part of Her Majesty's Government in consideration of the number of years that it has been held by the Sultans of Morocco, for according to British law regarding property in Gibraltar, Her Majesty's Government are entitled to excheat the property to the Crown.

Should your Lordship, however, consider that there are not sufficient grounds for adopting my views in this matter, I am prepared to carry into execution the instructions I have received from your Lordship on this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 80.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 17.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 6, 1885.

UNDER the circumstances reported in your despatch No. 24 of the 26th ultimo, I approve your having deferred action in the matter of the outrage and robbery alleged to have been committed on a Jew named Abitbol, the commercial agent of a British subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 81.

Mr. Bramston to Sir J. Parncefcote.—(Received April 7.)

Sir,

Downing Street, April 7, 1885.

I AM directed by the Earl of Derby to transmit to you, to be laid before Earl Granville, a letter addressed to him which has been received through the Governor of Malta, relating to a claim to compensation for losses in Tunis.

I am to ask what answer should be returned to the petitioners.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BRAMSTON.

Inclosure in No. 81.

Petition.

To Earl Granville, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, London.

The Petition of Salvatore and Emmanuele Tabone, of Valetta, Malta.

Respectfully sheweth.

THAT petitioners are Maltese and British subjects, and were, up to June 1881, established at Gabes, in Tunis, as merchants, having stores, containing a mixed stock of articles, of the value of 15,806 piastres.

In June of that year an insurrection took place at Gabes, and petitioners were compelled to flee, and their stores were pillaged and totally destroyed.

On the 1st September, 1881, petitioners duly lodged a protest in the hands of Mr F Callega, the Acting British Consular Agent at Sfax, with list and account of their property lost.

Petitioners have made application for compensation, but have received none; and in their distress they appeal to your Lordship, and pray you to take such steps on their behalf so that they may obtain what is due to them.

And petitioners, as in duty bound, will for ever pray, &c.
(Signed) SALVATORE TABONE
EMMANUELE TABONE.

March 17, 1885.

No. 82.

Earl Granville to Sir R. Morier.

(No. 37.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 7, 1885.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith, for your information, copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier relative to an outrage committed by a Chief of the Reefian tribe of Beni Urnagol on the Governor of the Spanish fortress of Alhucemas.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 83.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 9.)

(No. 29. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 1, 1885.

CID MOHAMMED BEN SULEYMAN called on me this morning with a message from the Acting Minister, Hadj Mohammed Torres, expressing great anxiety owing to a message he had received from M. Diosdado, the Spanish Minister, requiring that some public expression should at once be given of the regret and disapproval of the Moorish Government on account of the outrage committed by the tribe of Beni Urnagol upon the persons of the Governor and officers of the Spanish fortress of Alhucemas, and demanding that Hadj Mohammed Torres should call at the Legation accompanied by other

officials, and express regret, in the name of the Sultan, for what had occurred, and that on the hoisting of the Spanish flag at the Legation a salute of twenty-one guns should be fired.

Cid Suleyman informed me that Hadj Mohammed Torres replied, that the express courier he had dispatched to the Court at Fez had not yet returned, and, in consequence of the state of the roads, could hardly be expected for three or four days, but that he hoped to receive orders from the Sultan to grant the satisfaction demanded.

This excuse was considered unsatisfactory by M. Diosdado, who insisted, in peremptory language, on his demands being at once complied with.

Cid Suleyman said Hadj Mohammed Torres wished for my advice, adding that, should I consider he ought to comply with the demand of the Spanish Minister he begged that I would write at once a private note to that effect, to satisfy the Sultan, he had acted according to my advice, fearing that, otherwise, His Majesty might disapprove of his not having awaited the return of the courier with His Majesty's orders.

Taking it to consideration the gravity of the outrage which has been committed, and that public feeling in Spain is most excited by the late news from Rio Oro, where it is reported Spanish colonists have been murdered and driven off, and ignorant persons in Spain may erroneously suppose that the Sultan of Morocco is in some way responsible for the acts of Arabs in that distant region, taking into consideration also that the Moorish Government had recently saluted the French flag at Tangier though the wrong had been committed by M. Ordega and not by them, and that, if M. Diosdado's demand was not complied with, complications might arise which might bring about a rupture of relations, I wrote at once a letter to Hadj Mohammed Torres requesting that he should accede without further demur to the demand put forward by M. Diosdado.

With an hour after I gave this advice Hadj Mohammed Torres called at the Spanish Legation and the salute was fired.

Hadj Mohammed Torres informs me that he expects the Sultan will dispatch a force to arrest the Chief of Uriagol, and others who took part in the commission of the outrage.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 84

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 9.)

(No. 90. Ext.)
My Lord,

Tangier, April 2, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 21 of the 23rd ultimo, I have the honour to report that the town batteries yesterday saluted the Spanish flag on the demand of M. Diosdado; and the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs called at the Spanish Legation to express regret for the outrage that had been committed on the Governor of Alhucemas.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 85

Sir R. Morier to Earl Granville.—(Received April 9.)

(No. 33.)
My Lord,

Madrid, April 5, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatches No. 27 of the 19th instant and No. 30 of the 29th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith translation by Mr. Hardinge of the correspondence between the Spanish and Moorish Governments in connection with the recent attack by the Beni Barriaga Arabs on the Governor of Alhucemas.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. B. D. MORIER.

Inclosure in No. 85.

Extract from the Madrid "Official Gazette" of April 5, 1885.

(Translation.)

(1.)

The Governor of Malaga to the Minister of War

(Telegraphic.)

INFORMS him of the outrage

(2.)

The Minister of State to the Spanish Minister at Tangier.

(Telegraphic.)

March 18, 1885

His Majesty's Government have been officially informed from Alhucemas that Beniburriaga Moors have committed outrage on Governor of the place, his Adjutant, interpreter, and two sailors, the Adjutant being wounded, and the others injured by sticks and stones. The Government, which has witnessed this occurrence with as much astonishment as displeasure requires, in view of so unjustified an attack, the punishment of the culprits, an indemnity proportionate to the injury done, and a salute of the national flag, outraged in the person of the chief authority of Alhucemas. Bring this before Minister for Foreign Affairs

(3.)

The Spanish Minister at Tangier to the Minister of State.

(Telegraphic.)

March 21, 1885

Your cypher announcing Alhucemas outrage received a few hours ago. You will receive, by post, copy of note I am addressing to Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(4.)

The Spanish Minister at Tangier to Sud-el-Hadj Mohamed-el-Torres, the Sultan's Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(After compliments.)

Tangier, March 21, 1885

I have just received a telegram from my Government informing me that they have received official information to the effect that at Alhucemas, the Beniburriaga Moors have committed an outrage on the Governor of the place, his Adjutant, interpreter, and two sailors, the Adjutant being wounded and the others injured by sticks and stones.

His Excellency the Minister of State adds that the Government have witnessed this proceeding with surprise and displeasure, and that they require, in view of so serious and unjustifiable an attack the immediate punishment of all the offenders, an indemnity proportionate to the injury done, and the saluting of the Spanish flag, thus outraged in the person of the Governor of Alhucemas.

In bringing this before you, by order of my Government, I request that you will this same day dispatch a messenger to His Sherrefian Majesty, in order that, being thoroughly convinced of the grave character of the affair he may, in accordance with his well-known desire to maintain the best relations between the two countries adopt the most suitable measures for giving instant satisfaction to Spain, thus avoiding the recurrence of events of this nature, which cannot fail to disturb the peace between the two peoples, with clear disadvantage to their mutual interests.

It is, as you will understand, urgent that immediate steps should be taken for the punishment of the offenders, and for saluting the flag of Spain.

As regards the indemnity, my Government will fix what is proper. I await their instructions and will in good time communicate them to you.

(Signed)

JOSE DIOSDADO

The Spanish Consul at Gibraltar to the Minister of State.

(Telegraphic.)

March 23, 1885.
His Majesty's Minister at Tangier transmits to me, marked "Urgent," a despatch for your Excellency, which I have just posted, and the following cypher telegram, which I copy literally from the Minute inclosed in his letter:—

"The Spanish Minister at Tangier to the Minister of State, Madrid.

"(Urgent.)

"(Telegraphic.)

"Tangier, March 24, 1885
Your Excellency will receive by post copy of the note from the Sultan's Minister for Foreign Affairs, assuring me, in the Sultan's name, that the Spanish flag shall be saluted and the people of Benburruga exemplarily punished. I am to-day writing a further note, reserving to your Excellency the fixing of the indemnity."

(6.)

The Sultan's Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs to His Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary at Tangier

(Translation from the Arabic.)

(After compliments.)

Tangier, March 24, 1885 (7th Djumad I, 1302).
We have received your note of the 21st March, on the subject of what has taken place at Alhucemas, and we have immediately sent it up, in original, to the Sultan, before whom we have further laid all that you stated verbally, and we are sure that His Majesty will be deeply grieved at it, and will give orders to afford satisfaction to Spain. In any case, however, since the news received by his Excellency the Minister of State is, as you assert in your note, official, I am bound to assure you, as the Sultan's Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, in the Sultan's name, that the salute to the Spanish flag shall take place either at Tangier, where the Spanish Representative resides, or at Alhucemas, according as the Spanish Government may desire. In the name of friendship and peace

(Signed)

MOHAMMED BEN EL ARBI EL TORRES.

May God protect him.

(Countersigned)

A. RINALDY.

(7.)

To Cid-el-Hadj Mohammed el Torres, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Sultan

(After compliments.)

Tangier, March 24, 1885.

I have received your reply to my note of the 21st on the subject of the Alhucemas outrage.

I transmit its substance by telegraph, for the information of my Government and of the nation, justly indignant at so indescribable an outrage. My Government will fix the time and place for the salute to the Spanish flag.

With regard to the punishment of the culprits, I have assured them that His Shereefian Majesty, in his well-known wish to respond to the many proofs of decided and disinterested support of Moorish interests, which my august Sovereign has furnished, will not permit any delay, save such as is absolutely inevitable, in the chastisement of those who have endangered the peace between the two countries.

My Government hopes, and indeed, demands that a severe fine shall be levied on the Benburruga tribe, by which the outrage was committed, and which requires this punishment in order that similar events, which would destroy the peace and good relations between the two countries, may not occur in the future. This fine must be handed over to my Government, to be disposed of as it may think proper. Peace.

(Signed)

JOSÉ DIOSDADO.

The Minister of State to the Spanish Minister at Tangier.

(Telegraphic.)

Madrid, March 30, 1885.
His Majesty's Government desires, and instructs your Excellency that the salute to the Spanish flag shall take place at Tangier, with all possible solemnity, on Wednesday, Saturday, or Sunday next.

(9.)

The Minister of State to the Spanish Minister at Tangier.

(Telegraphic.)

Madrid, March 31, 1885.
Alhucemas Moors not having returned (in spite of remonstrance) boat robbed by them, claim from Government its immediate restoration.

(10.)

The Spanish Minister to Minister of State

(Telegraphic.)

Tangier, April 1, 1885.
Received this morning your cyphered telegram of 30th. Minister for Foreign Affairs and Acting Governor of Tangier presented themselves at this Legation, the former offering excuses in the name of His Shereefian Majesty, and the Spanish flag was at once hoisted and saluted with twenty-one volleys by the Tangier battery. This portion of our demands has therefore been complied with.

No. 86.

Mr. Currie to Sir R. Herbert

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 9, 1885.
WITH reference to Sir J. Parncefote's letter of the 18th ultimo, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you herewith, copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier upon the subject of the proposed disposal of certain property at Gibraltar, which has been claimed by the Sultan of Morocco since the year 1820.

In laying the same before Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, I am to request that you will state that Lord Granville is disposed to concur in Sir I. D. Hay's recommendations, but that before taking any action in the matter he would be glad to be favoured with Lord Derby's views.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

No. 87.

Earl Granville to Dr. Arpa.

(No. 7.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 10, 1885.
I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of correspondence with the Colonial Office respecting the claim of Salvatore and Emmanuele Tubone to compensation for losses alleged to have been sustained by them at Gales in June 1881,† and with reference to the arrangements made for settling all outstanding British claims at the time of the institution of French Tribunals in Tunis, I have to instruct you to report to me what happened with regard to this particular claim.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Mr. Currie to Sir R. Herbert.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 10, 1885.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, forwarding a Petition received through the Governor of Malta, and addressed to his Lordship by the Maltese, Salvatore and Emmanuele Tabone, praying for assistance to obtain for them compensation for the losses which they allege that they sustained through an insurrection at Gabes in Tunisia, in the year 1881.

I am to request that you will state to the Earl of Derby that this claim does not appear in the list of outstanding British claims sent home in December 1883, by the late Mr. Reade, then Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General in Tunis.

I am further to explain that when French Tribunals were established in Tunis, and Her Majesty's Government renounced the right of Consular jurisdiction in the Regency, it was arranged with the French Government that all British claims not amicably settled were to be dealt with by Arbitrators appointed by the two Governments.

Only two cases were eventually submitted to the Arbitrators, and they were the cases of General Benayad and the Esparto Fibre Company. It is presumed, therefore, that arrangements had been made for the amicable settlement of the other British claims.

Before replying to the Petition, Lord Granville will, however, ascertain from the British Consul at Tunis what happened with regard to this particular claim.

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. CURRIE.

Consul-General Playfair to Earl Granville.—(Received April 11.)

(No. 1.)

My Lord,

Algiers, April 3, 1885.

IN my despatch No. 5 of the 24th May, 1884, I alluded to the rumours then in circulation, that France had the intention of assisting upon a rectification of the frontier between Algeria and Morocco.

M. Feraud, the newly appointed French Minister at Tangier, will soon proceed on a mission to the capital, and I have no doubt that he will seize that occasion for endeavouring to effect this long cherished scheme; in any case it will never be abandoned, but will be revived whenever a favourable opportunity may occur.

Under these circumstances I think it right to inform your Lordship of what really is the nature of the rectification, and the reasons which induce the French to attach so much importance to it.

I inclose copy of a Map on which it is clearly shown. The actual frontier was fixed by the Commission of 1845 at the Oued Kiss, whence it proceeds in a south-easterly direction towards Buziafa, beyond which it has never been supposed to extend.

To the west of the Kiss, and separated from it only by 6 miles of sandy beach, is the historic river, Mulua or Molocath, the modern Moulouia, which enters the sea immediately south of the Za'farine Islands; these are 2 miles distant from the coast.

This river has been from the earliest ages the recognized frontier between Mauritania Caesariensis, the present western portion of Algeria, and Mauritania Tingitana, the Empire of Morocco. Even the Arab historians so regarded it. Mohammed-en-Nasri, in his history of North Africa, says:—

"Western Maghreb commences at Oudjeda, and ends at Asfi, a city on the ocean, Ibn Khaldoun in one place gives Oudjeda as the limit, and in another the Moulouia."

This river rises between the 32nd and 33rd degrees of north latitude, where is the watershed of the country. Near this point the Oued Guir also has its origin; it flows in an opposite direction towards the south-east, and joins the Zouzfana a little north of Igh; these two rivers then become the Msaoura.

In the upper part of its course the Oued Guir flows in a narrow rocky bed, but numerous barrages utilize its waters, and admit of the irrigation of its banks. Below Djerr-et-Torba it widens and becomes a considerable river, flowing through a rich and fertile country, with an admirably designed system of canalization. The climate is fine in winter, but extremely unhealthy in summer, during which season even the natives of the country avoid the neighbourhood of the river.

Little or nothing is known of the greater part of this country, it was, however, traversed by the expedition of General Wimpffen against the Oulad Sidi Cheikh in 1870.

I have marked in red ink on the Map the route taken by this column. After several skirmishes he had a severe engagement with the Doui-Mema near Bahamat, in which the latter were completely routed, accepted all his conditions, and delivered eleven of their principal men as hostages.

This done, he returned in the direction of Ain Chair. He surrounded that oasis, and drove all the inhabitants within the walls of their town, but he abstained from ordering the assault, and he accepted the submission of the inhabitants without permitting his men to enter the town.

Should the French obtain the desired rectification, they will get possession of two very rich and fertile regions, and three most important strategical positions.

1. Figuig, whence in five days they could reach Tafilalat, a wealthy town in which many relatives of the Emperor reside, and whence they would command all the southern part of Morocco.

2. From the Moulouia, near Za, they could march to Foz in four or five days, through a country well supplied with water, fuel and forage, passing Taza, Kardousa, and Mekinatza.

3. From the mouth of the Moulouia they could, after two or three days' march through an easy country, enter the rich districts of Kabdania and Gila, as well as command the Spanish "presidio" of the Za'farine Islands and Melhla.

It will be seen, therefore, that this "rectification of frontier" is as important from a French point of view as the occupation of Herat would be to Russia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. L. PLAYFAIR.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 18.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 13, 1885.

YOUR despatch No. 20 (Confidential, of the 1st instant, relative to the satisfaction demanded by the Spanish Minister at Tangier for the recent outrage upon the Governor and officers of the Spanish fortress of Allouemas has been received, and I have to state that your action in the matter as reported in your above mentioned despatch is approved.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Mr. Currie to Baron H. de Worms, M.P.*

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 14, 1885.

WITH reference to previous correspondence upon the subject of the alleged persecution of the Jews of Derna, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you a reply for your information, copies of two despatches from Her Majesty's Minister in Morocco reporting further in regard to this matter.

I am to add that Sir J. D. Hay's proceedings have been approved.

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. CURRIE.

Acting Consul-General Arpa to Earl Granville.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 12.)

My Lord,

Tunis, April 11, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Julian Pauncefote's despatch No. 6 of the 24th ultimo, inclosing copy of one from Her Majesty's Ambassador at

* Also to Mr. A. Cohen, M.P.

† Nos. 71 and 72.

Paris No. 181 of the 20th ultimo, on the subject of Mr M de J Levy's claim against the French military authority here, and to inform your Lordship that this question has been finally referred to arbitration.

The arbitration bond, of which copy is herewith respectfully inclosed, was, on the 8th instant, signed by the parties thereto.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. ARPA.

Inclosure in No. 92.

Arbitration Bond between Colonel Gripois and Mr. de J. Levy.

ENTRE les Soussignés :

M. le Lieutenant-Colonel Gripois, Directeur du Génie en Tunisie agissant en la dite qualité et avec l'autorisation de M. le Ministre de la Guerre de France.

Et Mr. M. de J. Levy, Négociant, demeurant à Londres, représenté par Mr P. Levy, son fondé de pouvoirs *ad hoc*, en vertu d'une procuration en date du 19 Mai, 1885.

A été dit et arrêté ce qui suit :

L'armée d'occupation pour ses services, à Gabès, un grand magasin et des terrains dont Mr. M. de J. Levy est propriétaire.

Qu'on n'a pas pu tomber d'accord du part et d'autre, sur le chiffre de l'indemnité d'occupation, ni sur le prix d'achat des dits terrains et magasin que l'armée offrait à Mr. Levy sous la condition de justifier de son titre de propriétaire.

Afin d'éviter un plus long retard dans le règlement des différends qui les divisent, les deux parties sont convenues de les soumettre à un arbitrage.

A cet effet, le Génie nommé pour son arbitre, M. Lefevy, Avocat défenseur, demeurant à Tunis.

Mr. M. de J. Levy nommé pour son arbitre, Mr. David Santillana, Avocat, demeurant à Florence, se rendra à passage à Tunis.

En outre, et afin d'éviter les frais de l'arbitrage, les deux parties nomment d'un commun accord M. Ferme, Juge au Tribunal Civil de Première Instance de Tunis comme tiers-arbitre, avec mission de presider l'arbitrage.

La Commission Arbitrale ainsi composée aura pour mission de statuer définitivement et en dernier ressort sur les points suivants :

1. Fixation de l'indemnité d'occupation qui peut être due à Mr. M. de J. Levy comme propriétaire du magasin et des terrains occupés par l'armée à Gabès.

Quel que soit le chiffre de cette indemnité, il sera payé en sus un intérêt de 5 pour cent sur le total, qui sera versé à partir de la première année d'occupation.

2. Fixation du prix du magasin et des terrains occupés par l'armée, que les arbitres actuels décideront après enquête et expertise, s'il y a lieu, et, dans tous les cas, en s'entourant de tous les renseignements propres à éclairer leur religion.

3. Les parties déclarent se soumettre à la décision des arbitres et s'obligent à l'exécuter comme jugement en dernier ressort, sans pouvoir en interjeter appel, ni se pourvoir par requête civile ou autrement.

4. Les arbitres statueront dans le délai de six mois à partir de la signature du présent compromis, tant sur les points de droit que sur les points de fait qui pourront soulever les différends existants entre les parties ainsi que sur les frais et dépens.

5. Ils ne seront pas astreints à suivre le délai et les formes établis par les procédures devant les Tribunaux, mais ils seront tenus de décider en droit.

Pour l'exécution des présentes les parties font élection de domicile à Tunis, savoir : —

M. le Lieutenant-Colonel Gripois, à la Chéfferie du Génie

Mr. M. de J. Levy ou la demeure de Mr. P. Levy, son mandataire.

Ainsi fait et convenu, en double original, à Tunis, le 8 Avril, 1885.

Approuvé p. p. de Mr. M. de J. Levy.

(Signé) M. P. LEVY.

Approuvé par autorisation de M. le Ministre de la Guerre du 14 Mars, 1885.

Le Lieutenant-Colonel Directeur du Génie,

(Signé) J. GRIPOIS.

No. 93.

Sir J. Lee to Lord E. Fitzmaurice.—(Received April 17.)

Dear Lord Fitzmaurice,

56, Mosley Street, Manchester, April 10, 1885.

AGREEABLE to my letter of the 27th ultimo, I now submit the complete information respecting the unfortunate circumstance which happened on the River Oiro, North-west Coast of Africa.

From representations made to the Spanish Government by the Spanish African Company in conjunction with the Spanish African Commercial Company, the territory between Cape Bojador and Cape Blanco was annexed to Spain.

An expedition "sent out with great secrecy" by the above-named Companies arrived at the Oiro about the end of October last. The Chief or agent had some difficulty in prevailing upon men to accompany him, as it was well known in the Canaries that the cruelties which had been practised upon the Arabs by Spanish and Canary fishermen from time immemorial had rendered it unsafe for any of those people to land on the coast.

A factory was built on the peninsula at a narrow neck of land between the sea and the river. Señor Benoit, the agent, after landing the staff, sailed for Cape Blanco and Cintra to found other factories, promising to return about the end of January, to complete the official occupation in the name of Spain, if the Government placed no obstacles in the way. This information I have translated from a letter which appeared in the Madrid "El Liberal," dated the 1st December, 1884. So far by way of introduction,—now for the disaster.

A considerable body of Moors (said to be the Oulad Dekan), under pretence of trading, seized upon the whole of the Spaniards, those offering resistance were shot. Six killed and two wounded; ropes were tied round the necks of the remainder, and they were forced to destroy the buildings and clear out the ship of merchandise. Possession of all goods was taken by the Moors, who then departed with their spoils, leaving the Spaniards in a terrible plight. On the 6th March the schooner arrived at Las Palmas, bringing the remains of the Spaniards. Señor Panton, one of the Chiefs of the expedition, is in a deplorable state—quiet dead and his throat so injured as unable to utter a word. This is the same man who was sent to Cape Juby by the Spanish Company, and on our declining to allow him to land he proceeded lower down the coast, landed, and endeavoured to enter into relations with the Moors, who took him and his men prisoners. Hearing of this disaster we proceeded to the place and ransomed them, at a cost of 500*l*, part of which has not been repaid to us. If we had not acted with promptitude the whole party would certainly have been killed. We have never been thanked for our intervention.

It is said in Canary that this act of the Moors is a retaliation for the ill-treatment they have suffered at various times from the Spaniards.

A Spanish gunboat was sent to the Oiro, but it is useless the place being deserted.

I have given you the true facts of the case, so far as my knowledge, but one thing I can most assuredly say, our servants at Cape Juby have had nothing whatever to do with this disaster. We knew of it at our station a few days after it occurred. Our Sheriff informed us that the action of the Spaniards was most dangerous to themselves, and at his instigation we have warned them repeatedly.

I may say we have twenty or thirty Canary men employed at our station but they are quite safe so long as the Moors are assured that they are under the command of Englishmen.

I am sorry to trouble you with so long a letter, but I feel in justice to myself I am bound to make these explanations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. C. LEE

No. 94.

*Earl Granville to Sir R. Morier.**

(No. 84.)

Sir,

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copy of a despatch from Consul-General Playfair respecting the question of the frontier between Algeria and Morocco.†

Foreign Office, April 17, 1885.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 95

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received April 21.)

(No. 81.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 16, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 12 of the 18th ultimo, transmitting a statement from the "Globe" newspaper of the 17th P. M. to the effect that "a man who resided at Ferouet, near Tetuan, upon a charge of having stolen a bullock, had his eyes cut out, by order of the local authorities," and directing me to ascertain the facts of the case.

Upon the receipt of your Lordship's despatch I addressed a letter to the Acting Consular Agent at Tetuan, Mr. J. Nahon, and instructed him to afford me all the information he could obtain regarding this statement in the "Globe."

In Mr. Nahon's reply he informs me that he has been unable to discover the name of the man who lost his eyes, or of the person who caused this torture to be inflicted. "Ferouet," which the article in the "Globe" mentions as the place where the man was deprived of his sight, is unknown.

Mr. Nahon says that, in the Reef districts of Khamees and Ghomam (where, if the story be true, he supposes this man lost his eyes in the manner described), it is the custom of the inhabitants when a robber is caught, and is recognized as one who had committed robberies on previous occasions, to destroy his sight by passing a hot iron over his eyes, so that he may become a warning to other malefactors.

This kind of Lynch law is practised in districts where the Sultan's temporal power is not recognized. Every man is armed when he leaves his dwelling, blood feuds are of frequent occurrence, but robbery is almost unknown; and I may add there is more morality amongst the women than, perhaps, in any other part of the world—in fact, crime of every kind, except that of slaying a man in feud, is very rare. Not only in the Reef, but also in the Boos and other mountainous regions, inhabited by semi-independent Berber tribes, a similar state of affairs prevails.

No Bashas, Sheikhs, or other Moorish official appointed by the Sultan can deprive a criminal of his sight, or inflict any corporal punishment other than flogging. The penalty of cutting off a hand or a foot of a notorious robber is inflicted by order of the Sultan, but such executions are rare.

On the other hand, I do not suppose His Majesty would be disposed, or even have the power, to repress this kind of Lynch law as practised by semi-independent Berber tribes.

There are generally three or four blind Moors seated at the gates of Tangier who are known to have been notorious robbers in mountainous districts, and who depend for their livelihood on the charity of passers-by. Their helpless state is a dreadful warning, which may deter malefactors from committing crimes in the mountainous districts, where the inhabitants are free from the sway of the Sultan's officers.

It is certainly repugnant to the feelings of the civilized world, and especially to the feelings of a man of such rectitude to a full acquaintance, even though he may have been a robber, but it is a question whether it would be wise or in any way advisable, so long as large districts of this country are in their present primitive state, to attempt, by advice or reference to put a stop to this ancient mode of punishing robbers, unless other deterrent measures for checking crime could be introduced. Security of property and (as I have said) morality of women are, from the causes stated, far greater amongst the Berber tribes of Morocco than in the districts governed by the Sultan's officers—or I may even say than in many civilized countries, whilst I venture to observe that, if

* Also to Sir J. Drummond Hay (No. 90).

† No. 89.

some such mode of marking criminals who prey upon their fellow-creatures could be resorted to by injured society in Europe, it might check the commission of atrocious crimes, such as those of dynamiters, where the legal measures of repression do not appear to have as yet succeeded in insuring the safety of the lives and property of innocent people.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

P.S.—April 11 Since writing the foregoing despatch I have received a further letter from Mr. Nahon, informing me that the Spanish surgeon at Tetuan, to whom the injured man had presented himself in the hope of his sight being restored, had informed him that the victim was a Reefian, who had been deprived of his sight by the tribe on account of his having robbed a mule; but that he had not been able to discover his name, nor that of the district to which he belonged.

J. H. D. H.

No. 96.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received May 4.)

(No. 83.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 23, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 19 of the 16th April, transmitting a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Feneriffe, forwarding a translated Report of the Spanish Commission of Exploration on the coast of Morocco.

I return herewith, as directed, the above-mentioned despatch, with its inclosure, which I have carefully perused.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 97

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received May 4.)

(No. 84.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 25, 1885.

THE French Minister, M. Feraud, left this day for the Court at Fez. Several military officers and troopers and some scientific gentlemen accompany the Mission, besides the members of the French Legation. M. Feraud takes with him six field guns and four mares,* and, it is supposed, other gifts to present to the Sultan.

He volunteered to inform me that he had no demand to put forward, or subject of importance to discuss, adding, "Je vous donne ma parole d'honneur." The chief object of his mission, he said, would be to do away with the erroneous impression which may have been left on the minds of the Sultan and his Ministers by the proceedings of M. Ordega regarding the policy of the French Government, and to assure His Majesty of the friendly feelings which animate them. M. Feraud also held similar language to some of my colleagues.

The foreign Representatives had a meeting last week to discuss what measures should be taken to induce the Moorish Government to construct an iron pier at this port to land passengers and merchandize, as the mole which was built of concrete last year by an incompetent engineer is falling into ruin.

I suggested to my colleagues that, as M. Feraud was going to the Court, he should be requested by them, as I had been on a past mission, to bring under the notice of the Sultan the deplorable state of the Moorish ports from the absence of landing-places and breakwaters to protect boats disembarking passengers and merchandize.

When the late M. Tissot and I visited the Sultan's Court in 1873 we brought the subject simultaneously under the notice of the late Sultan, Cidi Mohammed, and obtained His Majesty's consent to the propositions we submitted for this and other improvements, but as the condition then made by His Majesty was that the foreign Representatives should in the first place come to a common agreement regarding the extra charges to be made on vessels or merchandize on account of these improvements, and as

* One mare died from injuries on landing.—J. H. D. H.

one of the Representatives would not, at that time, agree to the imposition of any extra charge, the matter was dropped.

All my colleagues at the late meeting, with the exception of the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires, who did not feel himself authorized, in the absence of M. Diosdado, assented to the proposition.

It was agreed that we should each address a separate note to the Vizier, expressing our views on this subject, and informing him that we had requested M. Feraud to bring under the notice of the Sultan the necessity of making better provision at the ports for the convenience of shipping and trade. I have the honour to transmit a translation of the letter I have addressed the Vizier, and of its inclosures.

M. Feraud has promised also to support the applications made to lay cables between Gibraltar and Tangier, and Tarifa and Tangier, and to dispel the apprehensions of the Government that such concessions would cause France, or any other Power, to demand as a right that telegraphic communications with the interior should consequently be also conceded.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 97.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Grand Vizier

(Traduction.)

Tanger, le 24 Avril, 1885

DANS le mois de Janvier passé les Représentants avaient adressé à Hadj Mohammed Torres une lettre identique, le priant de soumettre pour la considération de Sa Majesté Chérifiennne leur demande qu'un débarcadère soit construit dans le port de Tanger pour faciliter le transport de marchandises, et que de nouveaux magasins soient bâtis, les magasins actuels étant insuffisants aux besoins du commerce, car les importations et les exportations ont augmenté et continuent à s'augmenter à ce port, et que d'autres mesures, qu'ils ont suggérées, dans l'intérêt du commerce, soient prises.

Nous n'avons reçu aucune réponse à cette communication quoique nous sommes convaincus que Sa Majesté Chérifiennne n'aurait pas perdu de vue une demande faite par tous les Représentants des Puissances amies, qui n'avaient d'autre désir que celui du bien général des dominions de Sa Majesté, et du commerce et de la navigation.

La nécessité de construire un débarcadère à ce port est de toute évidence, car ceux qui ont été construits des fonds du Conseil Sanitaire sont tombés en ruines, n'ayant pas été d'un caractère suffisamment solide, à cause du manque de fonds, et pour d'autres raisons.

Dans l'année 1875 Oid Mohammed Bargash avait adressé, par ordre de Sa Majesté Chérifiennne, une lettre à MM. les Représentants, de laquelle je vous envoie ci-joint un extrait qui touche à ce sujet, par lequel vous verrez que Sa Majesté Chérifiennne par sa sagesse avait accédé à la demande qu'ils avaient faite de construire un môle à Tanger et un brise-lames à Daralbraida. Oid Mohammed Bargash avait prié MM. les Représentants d'étudier la question de la perception des droits additionnels à être imposés sur les navires, les passagers, et les marchandises, et d'obtenir l'agrément de leurs Gouvernements.

Les Représentants nommèrent une Commission pour étudier cette question, mais il n'y avait pas alors un parfait accord au sujet de la manière de percevoir les droits et conséquemment il n'y a pas eu de suite à cette affaire. Heureusement cette différence d'opinion n'existe plus, et tous les Représentants sont animés des meilleurs dispositions pour appuyer toute mesure que Sa Majesté Chérifiennne, dans sa sagesse et dans son désir d'améliorer le bien-être du commerce et de la navigation, et conséquemment du Trésor, décidera d'adopter.

Le Ministre de France part pour la Cour Chérifiennne, et les Représentants désirent profiter de sa visite, et l'ont prié de soumettre, en leurs noms, à Sa Majesté Chérifiennne, les propositions qu'ils ont à faire à ce sujet, et comme nous avons toute confiance dans sa sagesse, et dans les sentiments amicaux qui l'animent vis-à-vis Sa Majesté Chérifiennne, et le bien-être de ce pays, nous vous prions de faire part à Sa Majesté que tout ce qu'il vaudra bien représenter à ce sujet de vive voix ou par écrit sera comme si nous le faisons nous-mêmes.

Après consultation avec des ingénieurs éminents de différentes nations, l'opinion a été émise que le débarcadère doit être construit en fer; c'est plus durable, plus économique, et on n'aura pas les encombrements de cables, qui sont produits par des môles massifs, qui à la fin empêchent les allèges d'approcher.

Nous avons prié M. le Ministre de France de soumettre aussi pour la considération de Sa Majesté Chérifiennne la nécessité urgente d'améliorer l'état du port de Mogador. Nous vous transmettons ci-joint copie d'une lettre que le Vizir Cid Moussa Ben Ahmed nous avait adressée dans l'année 1295 (1878), nous informant que Sa Majesté Chérifiennne avait accepté le plan qu'on lui avait soumis, à condition qu'on percevra des droits additionnels sur les bâtiments visitant ce port, et Sa Majesté nous invita d'agir avec toute diligence. Cette affaire n'a pas eu de suite pour les mêmes raisons que celles données dans la question des môles à Tanger et à Daralbraida.

Il paraît du rapport qui a été fait par le même ingénieur tout récemment que les frais à encourir pour améliorer l'état du port ne monteront pas à la somme mentionnée dans la lettre du Vizir, Cid Moussa Ben Ahmed.

En conclusion, nous répétons notre conviction que Sa Majesté Chérifiennne est animée, comme l'était Sa Majesté dans les années passées, du vif désir d'améliorer l'état de ses ports pour faciliter les transactions commerciales. Si les désirs exprimés alors par Sa Majesté n'ont pas été mis en exécution la faute n'en est pas à ce Gouvernement.

Les droits de douane sont une des principales sources de revenu de Sa Majesté Chérifiennne et les sommes perçues chaque année montent à une figure très considérable.

Nous ne doutons pas que Sa Majesté Chérifiennne, comme tout autre Souverain ou Gouvernement dans le monde, reconnaitra que le commerce et la navigation, sur lesquels les taxes et droits sont levés, ont toute raison d'attendre qu'on fasse tout ce qui est raisonnable pour faciliter leurs opérations.

(Signé) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 97.

Oid Mohammed Bargash to the Foreign Representatives in Morocco

(Traduction.)

Tanger, le 30 Juin, 1875

O AMIS, ceux d'entre vous qui étaient à Tanger sous le règne de Cidi Mohammed, se rappelleront qu'ils ont demandé, par l'intermédiaire des Ministres de France et d'Angleterre, alors qu'ils se trouvaient à Maroc, auprès de Sa Majesté, la construction d'un môle à Tanger et d'un brise-lames à Daralbraida, pour protéger les bateaux; ainsi que l'établissement d'un câble télégraphique qui partirait de Tanger.

Cidi Mohammed, à qui Dieu fasse miséricorde, étudiait encore ces questions lorsque la mort l'a frappé avant qu'il ait pu prendre une décision.

Aujourd'hui cette demande ayant été renouvelée à notre Maître, Sa Majesté m'a invité à m'entendre avec vous au sujet des avantages qui peuvent en résulter pour le pays et pour le commerce.

Sa Majesté Chérifiennne ayant l'intention de faire tout ce qui peut être utile, en commençant toutefois par le plus nécessaire, veut étudier ces questions avec soin, attendu qu'elles ne s'étaient jamais présentées du temps de ses aïeux, et comme cela demandera de fortes dépenses, notre Maître veut, avant de rien entreprendre, que je m'entende avec vous pour lui démontrer les avantages qui peuvent en résulter et savoir de quelle manière cela sera réglé. C'est pourquoi je vous prie, Messieurs, de vouloir bien examiner ces questions et de vous entendre sur les droits à payer par les navires, les passagers, et les marchandises, et lorsque vous aurez obtenu l'agrément de vos Gouvernements à ce sujet, de vouloir bien me le communiquer par écrit, afin que j'en informe mon Maître. Lorsque celui-ci se sera assuré des avantages que cela peut avoir pour le Trésor et le bien-être de ses sujets, il enverra ici un Commissaire chargé d'étudier les plans et les devis, et de lui faire un rapport là-dessus: alors s'il plaît à Dieu, il verra ce qu'il y a à faire.

(Signé) MOHAMMED BARGASH.

Inclosure 3 in No. 97

The Vizier Cid Moussa to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

Jumad I 10, 1295 (May 20, 1878)

WE have received your letter, and have comprehended what you have recommended regarding the improvement of the harbour of Mogador, and the injury which is caused at present to merchandise embarked in boats, as the latter are exposed to the waves and surf

F.C. 403/55
ALY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE
PUBL. RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

on approaching the landing-place, and we note that you have directed your son, the Consul at Mogador, to transmit to the Sherrefian Court a plan of the proposed improvements, and you suggest that, if our Lord the Sultan decided that the plan should be carried out, the merchant Grace, who is an engineer, should undertake the work, as he will do it in an economical manner, and the Oomana will then pay to him the expenses as he incurs them.

Your son sent the plan, and from his excellent judgment, and zeal in facilitating affairs, and from the interest he takes in the welfare of the Treasury, he stated that the cost of the work would be about 25,000 dollars, and he suggested that the repayment of this outlay should be effected by levying dues upon merchandize, vessels, and steamers, until the expenditure is repaid, and then the dues should be reduced and devoted to the repairs that will be necessary.

We have communicated all this to our Lord the Sultan, and he has approved what you recommended, and His Majesty ordered me to write to you to request that you point out to Cid Mohammed Bargash how he is to represent the matter to the foreign Representatives, so that they may arrange as to the manner of paying the dues before the work is commenced and expenditure incurred. Then Cid Mohammed Bargash should obtain documents signed by them. It is requested that this be done quickly, so that the work may be begun.

We have written to the aforesaid Agent, Cid Mohammed Bargash, to confer with you with the view of carrying this into execution, so that this good work may be carried out.
(Signed) MOUSSA BEN HAMED.

No. 98

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received May 4.)

(No. 36. Cont. letter.)

My Lord,

Tangier, April 27, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 20 of the 17th instant, transmitting copy of a despatch from Consul-General Playfair respecting the question of the frontier between Algeria and Morocco.

The information given by Colonel Playfair regarding the proposed boundaries is very interesting, and the inferences which he draws are no doubt correct as to the consequences which may ensue if the Sultan concedes the territory, which it is supposed the French aim at obtaining, when a rectification of the frontier is effected.

Though M. Feraud spontaneously gave me his word of honour that there was no subject of importance which he had to discuss at the Court, or demand to put forward,* I do not put implicit faith in such assurances, and I think it is not improbable that the question of rectification of frontier will be discussed, especially as I had heard, before M. Feraud's arrival here, that it was the intention of the Sultan to send an Embassy to Paris, and that Cid Abdelmalek Ben El Hashmy, Governor of the frontier town of Ouchda, had been selected for this mission† as it was said the question of the frontier was to be discussed. The Moorish Government have not made any communication to me on the subject, and the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs assured me he has not received any intimation regarding the object of the proposed Embassy to Paris.

As it would be a very delicate matter for me to express any opinion or to offer advice to the Sultan or his Ministers upon such a subject, especially as the refusal of His Sherrefian Majesty to entertain the propositions that may be made to him regarding a rectification of the frontier might bring about serious differences and consequences, I have carefully abstained from expressing any opinion to the Moorish Minister; but I have requested an officer at the Court, with whom I occasionally correspond, to let me know confidentially if any question about frontiers is raised by M. Feraud.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

* See No. 97.

† See No. 17.

No. 99.

Baron H. de Worms and Mr. Cohen to Earl Granville.—(Received May 7.)

My Lord,

London, April 30, 1885.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 14th April instant, inclosing copies of two despatches from Her Majesty's Minister in Morocco relative to the recent persecution of the Jews of Demnat, and we desire to tender to your Lordship the expression of our sincere thanks for your good offices in this matter.

Whilst we regret that it was not deemed expedient to remove the Governor of Demnat, under whose administration the lamentable scenes in question were enacted, we are gratified to learn that a Delegate has been selected to represent the Jews of Demnat, who will be placed under the special protection of the Sultan and the Ambassadors of Great Britain, France, and Italy, and we sincerely hope that this step may serve to protect our co-religionists at Demnat from further ill-treatment.

Again thanking your Lordship for your humane and powerful interposition so kindly and effectively afforded on this and on many similar occasions, we have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY DE WORMS, President of the Anglo-Jewish Association.

ARTHUR COHEN, President of the London Committee of Deputies of the British Jews.

No. 100.

Dr. Arpa to Earl Granville.—(Received May 8.)

(No. 14.)

My Lord,

Tunis, May 2, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 7 of the 10th ultimo, inclosing, for my information, copy of correspondence with the Colonial Office respecting the claim of Salvatore and Emmanuele Tabone to compensation for losses alleged to have been sustained by them at Gabes in June 1881, and with reference to the arrangements made for settling all outstanding British claims at the time of the institution of French Tribunals in Tunis. Your Lordship instructs me to report what happened with regard to this claim.

The late Mr. Reade does not seem to have taken any action in the matter beyond writing on the 23rd October, 1884, to Mr. Calleja, British Consular Agent at Gabes, asking him to report if Salvatore and Emmanuele Tabone had taken the proper steps to save their property before leaving Gabes. Mr. Calleja replying on the 2nd November, 1884, that he was unable to give any information on the subject, as he had left Gabes long before the insurrection broke out. Of Mr. Reade's letter to Mr. Calleja, and the latter's reply thereto, I beg respectfully to inclose copy.

I may here be permitted respectfully to say that in dealing with the question of compensation claimed by foreign subjects for losses sustained by them during the bombardment of Sfax, His Highness the Bey, whilst abandoning in their favour his international rights, did by Decree, dated the 10th April, 1885, published in the "Journal Officiel" of the 26th of that month, herewith respectfully inclosed, expressly reserve these rights with regard to other claims of a similar nature.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

F. ARPA.

Inclosure 1 in No. 100.

Consul Reade to Mr. Calleja.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Tunis, October 23, 1884.

I AM informed by Mr. Salvatore and Mr. Emmanuele Tabone, through the Malta Government, that they sustained losses in consequence of the revolution at Gabes in 1881.

As I must give a reply, I beg you will inform me, at your earliest convenience, whether the said persons abandoned their stores before or during the insurrection, and

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why, having had time before their departure to make a list of their goods, and to present the same to your Office for the attestation of their signatures, and to the Consulate of France for the same object, they did not take their goods with them away on their departure.

It appears that on the 1st September, 1881, they sent to your Office a protest forwarded from Sfax, i.e., three months after leaving Gabes, instead of transmitting a Petition to this Agency and Consulate-General on their immediate arrival at Sfax, protesting regularly. Besides that, whilst making out the list of their goods, they ought to have called witnesses, and drawn up a *procès-verbal* on the spot, in order to be able to prove afterwards the truth of the existence of the goods mentioned in their note.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. F. READE

Inclosure 2 in No. 100.

Mr. Calleja to Consul Reade.

(Translation,
Sir,

Gabes, November 2, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 23rd October last, asking for information regarding the loss sustained by Mr. Salvatore and Mr. Emanuele Tabone, merchants in the Menzel of Gabes before the insurrection.

You are aware that since thirty-three days before the insurrection took place I had been absent from Gabes, and therefore I cannot give you an exact information regarding the departure and flight of Europeans from that place. However, I beg to state that, according to the protest made by them and deponited in this Office, their departure took place on the 25th June, 1881, whilst the insurrection took place at Sfax on the 29th June, and at Gabes later on.

I beg also to state that the goods possessed by these gentlemen could not have been easily carried away, and therefore I believe that their loss is real, but I cannot say to what extent. However, when I went to the Menzel to look at the ruins, I saw before their stores many fragments of goods and articles.

I had the honour of transmitting to you, towards the end of 1881, a list of the losses sustained by British subjects, that of Messrs. Tabone included.

I beg to confirm the contents of my Petition regarding my own loss, accompanied by certificates from the Custom-house and others.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. CALLEJA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 100.

Extract from the "Journal Officiel Tunisien" of April 26, 1883.

Décret du 2 Djoumadi El Tani, 1300 (10 Avril, 1883).

Louanges à Dieu !

BIEN qu'il soit établi par les règles du droit international que les dommages résultant de faits de guerre n'autorisent aucune demande en indemnité et que les événements dont la ville de Sfax a été le théâtre en 1881 aient ce caractère, nous n'avons pu entendre sans en être touché les plaintes des sujets des Puissances amies qui ont souffert de ces événements.

Aussi, animé par les sentiments de générosité dont certains peuples civilisés, et notamment la France, notre magnanime alliée et protectrice, se sont inspirés dans des circonstances analogues, nous avons provoqué la réunion d'une Commission Internationale appelée à apprécier l'importance des pertes éprouvées par les colonies étrangères à Sfax.

Cette Commission a résumé ses appréciations dans des Tableaux qui nous ont été soumis et que nous avons approuvés.

En conséquence, et sans renoncer aux dispositions du droit international, qui permettent de ne pas accueillir les demandes formées dans des circonstances analogues, nous avons pris le Décret dont la teneur suit :—

Article 1^{er}. Il est alloué, à titre purement gracieux, à tous les sujets des Puissances étrangères établis à Sfax lors de la rébellion de cette ville en 1881 dont les réclamations

ont été examinées par la Commission d'Enquête, une indemnité égale au chiffre proposé pour chacun des réclamants par la dite Commission, conformément au Tableau annexé au présent Décret.

Art. 2. Cette indemnité sera prélevée sur le montant de la contribution de guerre imposée à la ville de Sfax.

Art. 3. Le paiement en sera fait en plusieurs échéances dont la première, comprenant la moitié de l'indemnité totale, courra du 8 Redjeb au 8 Châaban, 1300 (15 Mai au 14 Juin, 1883).

Art. 4. Des mandats individuels sur la caisse du payeur général du corps d'occupation seront remis aux titulaires par le Gouverneur de Sfax. Ils signeront et laisseront entre ses mains une déclaration par laquelle ils s'engageront à renoncer, après paiement de l'indemnité, à toute réclamation ultérieure du chef des dommages éprouvés à l'occasion de la rébellion de la ville de Sfax en 1881.

Dans le cas où le titulaire ne saurait signer, acte authentique de cette déclaration sera remis au Gouverneur de Sfax.

Art. 5. Les mandats seront acquittés par les titulaires et leurs signatures legalisées par l'autorité Consulaire dont ils relèvent. Dans le cas où ils ne sauraient signer, quittance authentique délivrée par l'autorité Consulaire sera fournie à l'appui du mandat.

Art. 6. En cas de changement d'état, les certificats de propriété seront établis par l'autorité Consulaire, avec indication des parties prenantes, mais sans déterminer ou de la part revenant à chacune d'elles. Si le mandat n'est acquitté par tous les intéressés, procuration authentique de ceux dont la signature fait défaut sera fournie à l'appui du mandat.

Art. 7. En cas d'empêchement les titulaires des mandats pourront les faire toucher par des mandataires munis d'une procuration authentique.

Art. 8. Toutes les pièces fournies à l'appui des mandats seront rédigées en Français, ou traduites en cette langue, et certifiées conformes aux originaux par le Consul de France à Sfax. Les originaux et les traductions resteront annexés aux quittances.

No. 101.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received May 12.)

(No. 37)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 4, 1885

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatches No. 48 of the 22nd November and No. 51 of the 19th December, and to my despatch No. 108 of the 6th December of last year, on the subject of prisons and the treatment of prisoners, I have the honour to transmit the translation of a letter addressed to me by the Vizier, and of a Shercofian Edict issued by the Sultan in consequence of the representations which have been made to His Majesty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 101.

The Vizier to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After the usual compliments.)

27 Joumad 2nd, 1302 (April 13, 1885)

WE have received your letter informing us that you have received instructions from your illustrious Government concerning the state of the prisons and prisoners in this Empire, to ask in a friendly manner that we supply bread to the poor prisoners, and cause the prisons to be cleansed and whitewashed, and that prisoners for debt be not placed in irons.

We have made known to His Majesty all that you have communicated to us, and His Majesty has taken it into consideration, and has ordered us to reply to you on the subject, in order that you may communicate our reply to your Government, and to thank them at the same time for their good advice and the interest they take in His Majesty's subjects.

His Majesty charges us to offer to your Government his lively thanks for all this, and to request you to inform them that orders have been given that prisoners receive bread daily from the prison authorities. It is true that the poor receive bread on

Government account, and that those who have the means receive bread daily from their families through the authorities.

With regard to the prisoners for whom you ask that they be not put in irons, it was not formerly the custom to place irons on them, but as it has happened that they have made holes in the prison walls and have fled, criminal prisoners have taken advantage of it, committing assaults on their guards. The same thing has occurred when the guards entered to distribute bread, or to imprison or release any one; they attacked them, striking them with their irons, and escaped. The Government, seeing what happened, ordered, with the view to prevent its recurrence, that irons be placed on all prisoners, thus putting an end to such abuses. If the irons are removed there will be a renewal of what occurred before, and hundreds of guards will be required to guard the prisons, which would cause great inconvenience to the Government.

His Majesty is always desirous to alleviate the sufferings of the prisoners, but assassins and highway robbers are deserving of no consideration, and the authorities must watch carefully that they receive their chastisement.

We inclose copy of the orders given to the authorities on this subject.

(Signed) MOHAMED BEN EL ARBY MOKHTAR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 101.

Shereefian Edict to the Authorities.

(Translation.)

WE send the bearer to take note of all prisoners in your districts in your presence, and of the offences they have committed, as we are responsible for our subjects. Whoever is culpable by Shria (Law) will receive the punishment he deserves, and to neglect this would not be good either for us or for you for it is our duty always to help the prisoners, and not to oppress them, that they may acquit themselves of their prayers and other religious duties, and a place must be furnished for their prayers, and water for their ablutions, as they are persons like unto us, for God has imposed upon us all the duty of prayer, it being the first duty of religion, and the oppression of our neighbours is forbidden us; and all who deserve punishment shall receive it in accordance with his offence after our orders have been received, for injustice is not permitted in any religion. Be careful regarding this for fear of the chastisement of God. Whoever transgresses these precepts will have to give account thereof to God. Peace.

(Signed) MOHAMED BEN EL ARBY EL MOKHTAR.

No. 102.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received May 12.)

(No. 38.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 4, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 29 of the 1st April, regarding the outrage committed upon the Governor of Alhucemas by the tribe of Beni Ooriagel, and reporting the advice I had offered to this Government, recommending that they should lose no time in affording satisfaction to the Spanish Government, I have the honour to transmit the translation of a letter I have received from the Vizier, conveying to me the thanks of the Sultan.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure in No. 102.

The Vizier to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)

(After the usual compliments.)

17 Joumad 2nd, 1302 (April 3, 1885).

WE have received your private letter stating that Kaid Zinn, of Ooriagel, requested the Governor of Alhucemas to come and see him concerning a question that had arisen between them, and that the Governor went with some officers, and that a number of persons of the tribe of the Kaid who were hidden attacked them, and the Governor and

his officers fled to Alhucemas, and commenced to fire upon the people of Ooriagel, and that the Spanish Minister had informed you that he has received a telegram on this subject, and you inform us of all that he told you, and you recommend that we settle the matter in the way you point out.

We have communicated the contents of your letter to our Lord, and His Majesty has understood it, and ordered us to reply to you that the facts are these.

The brethren of the Kaid claim a sum of money owing to them by a man of Bukawa, and, as they could not recover the money, they took possession of two boats belonging to their debtor. The latter went to the Governor of Alhucemas and begged him to say that the boats belonged to him. The Governor crossed over to the Ooriagel shore with his lieutenant, interpreter, and some sailors, and he asked to see the Kaid. The Kaid acceded to his wish, and they met. During their interview some of the Kaid's relatives, who are evil people came up and began to stone the Spaniards, who fled to their boats and returned to Alhucemas from whence they commenced to fire upon some houses on the shore and destroyed one of them. They then fired upon all who passed by the sea-shore. When the news of this arrived at the Court, His Majesty gave strict orders to Kaid Mubarik-el-Dablaly, and the Kaid of Ooriagel and Kuleya, and the administrators, and the Amm-el-Ary, to proceed to the assistance of the Kaid, and to arrest the guilty persons. The Sultan has sent also the Kaid-el-Rihá,* Kaid-el-Arby, Ben Boo Azar, of Oudaus, with some horsemen, to attend to this matter until it is settled.

His Majesty has further ordered all the Kuids of Ooriagel and the Elders of the tribe to proceed to the Court when the guilty persons are arrested, in order to put an end to this affair.

Our Lord thanks you for the information you have given, and hopes you will continue to act thus, as it is known that you are our friend. Peace.

(Signed) ALARBY BEN MOKHTAR.

No. 103.

Earl Granville to Sir R. Morier.

(No. 43.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 13, 1885.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copy of a letter from Sir J. Lee, respecting the recent attack on Spaniards on the River Ouro, north-west coast of Africa.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 104.

Messrs. Bowker and Co. to Earl Granville.—(Received May 20.)

Darlington, Manchester, May 19, 1885.

May it please your Lordship,

ALLOW us to remind you that we wrote to you regarding a claim against the Moorish Government on the 18th December, 1884, the receipt of which was not acknowledged until the 9th January, 1885. Since then we only received from the Foreign Office a letter (with inclosures), dated the 11th February, 1885.

More than three months have again elapsed without any further sign of any kind! We conclude from this that the British Minister's "energetic language" (named in your Report) has been allowed to have the same treatment that British interests in Morocco have been allowed to have for the past eleven years or more! This is more than disgraceful, and would be to any nation.

We again call upon you to at once have an end put to this matter. Failing to have some satisfactory assurance of this, we shall be (reluctantly) compelled to have the whole matter brought before the House of Commons.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) R. O. BOWKER AND CO.

* An officer in command of 1,000 men.—J. H. D. H.

† No. 38.

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Y

P.S.—We have been advised that Mr. Payton, our Consul at Mogador, left Mogador on or about the 14th April "on a six months' leave." Please note the cutting we inclose.

R. C. B. AND CO.

Inclosure in No. 104

Extract from the "Manchester Guardian" of May 19, 1885.

BRITISH SUBJECTS IN MOROCCO.—An Exchange Company's telegram, dated Gibraltar, Monday, states:—"There is a great outcry in Morocco against the British Minister, and it is said that unless some active steps are taken to protect the Treaty rights of British subjects there will not be an Englishman left in Morocco. Five British families are now preparing to leave. All nationalities except Englishmen are allowed to transport grain from port to port, but the British Legation at Tangier intercepts the transportation by water as exportation which is forbidden by the Treaty. The French and other foreigners are using all the influence they can bring to bear to obtain appointments under the Sultan, but the only two Englishmen employed at Tangier were recently summarily dismissed, though one of the orders for dismissal has been withdrawn for the present. Their offence, it is stated, was the attachment of their signatures to a Memorial to Lord Granville."

No. 105

Karl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 24.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, May 25, 1885

I HAVE received your despatch No. 34 of the 25th ultimo, relative to the mission of M. Ferand to the Court at Fez, and to the proposal that he should bring under the notice of the Sultan, in the name of the foreign Representatives, the necessity of making better provision at Moorish ports for the convenience of shipping and trade.

I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government approve your action in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 106.

Mr. Lister to Sir R. Herbert

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 25, 1885.

WITH reference to my letter of the 10th ultimo, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you herewith, to be laid before the Earl of Derby, a despatch which has been received from Her Majesty's Consul at Tunis, reporting on the claim of S. and E. Tabone for compensation on account of losses sustained in consequence of the insurrection at Gabes, and I am to suggest, for his Lordship's consideration, that the claimants should be informed that no record can be found of the claim having ever been presented by them when compensation was allotted for the losses so incurred, and that it is too late now to bring any such claim forward.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. V. LISTER.

No. 107

Mr. Lister to Messrs. Bowker and Co.

Foreign Office, May 30, 1885.

Gentlemen,
I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant upon the subject of Mr. J. Curtis' claim against the Moorish Government,

* No 88

and I am to observe that you are mistaken in supposing that this case has been lost sight of either at the Foreign Office or by Her Majesty's Minister at Morocco.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. V. LISTER.

No. 108.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received June 1)

(No. 39. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 24, 1885.

THE Spanish Minister, M. Diosdado, made known to me to-day that he had received a communication from the Government at Madrid, in which considerable apprehension is expressed that the object of the Mission of the French Minister to the Court of the Sultan is to obtain a rectification of frontier or other concession, which may facilitate the ambitious projects of France.

He informed me that he was directed to point this out to his colleagues of Great Britain and Italy, as Representatives of Powers who are interested in the maintenance of the *status quo*, and the freedom of the Straits, which it was thought may at no distant time be imperilled, when the French may consider that the attention of those Powers are engrossed by other questions of a serious character, or even by a great war, and that therefore no serious opposition would be likely to be offered to their taking possession of Morocco, and thereby obtaining the command of the Mediterranean and the Straits.

The Spanish Government thought the moment had arrived when those Powers who were interested in preventing such a catastrophe should endeavour to come to a common understanding as to what course they should pursue before further progress was made by the French towards the object they have in view, and had directed him to suggest to his colleagues of Great Britain and Italy to point this out to their respective Governments.

In confirmation of the grounds for apprehension entertained by the Spanish Government, M. Diosdado communicated to me, confidentially, the following information he had just received from the Moorish Court; that M. Ferand had informed the Sultan that they desired to build fortresses on the frontier, that they had requested that a market should be opened at Onchida for the French, and that a concession should be granted to construct a railway from a place called Bisaka on the French frontier to that town.

M. Diosdado said that it was his intention to point out to the Moorish Government that so long as the French erected fortresses on the frontier within their own territory they had a right to do so, but it could be intimated to the French Minister by the Sultan, that the erection of these fortresses would be regarded as a menace.

That, with regard to the market and railroad, the import and export trade at the Moorish ports and the customs revenues would thereby be seriously impaired, and that if such a project were carried into execution it was most probable the French would demand, when the railway was constructed, that it should be placed entirely under their protection and jurisdiction, and probably also the adjoining country.

In these views I informed M. Diosdado I concurred, and I added that I should report to your Lordship, confidentially, the language he had held, and express an opinion that the time had arrived for those Powers who desire to avoid the complications which may at no distant date ensue to endeavour to come to an understanding as to the best course to be pursued to prevent or to check the ambitious projects the French manifestly entertain upon this country and the Straits.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 109.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received June 1.)

(No. 40. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, May 25, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatches No. 26 of the 27th April and No. 39 of yesterday's date, I have the honour to transmit the translation of a Memorandum which the

Sultan directed his Chamberlain, Cid Ahmed Ben Moosa, to send me by an express courier, with a request that I should offer my observations as to the replies which it would be advisable to give to the demands that had been put forward by the French Minister.

The courier arrived yesterday evening at my villa in the country, after the visit of the Spanish Minister*. I have since made known, confidentially, to the latter that I received from the Court a communication identic to his own, and had replied almost in the same sense as he had done.

I have the honour to transmit a translation of the reply I have addressed the Chamberlain, and of the Memorandum to be presented to the Sultan, and I trust your Lordship will approve the language I have held.

I dispatched the courier at 1.30 P.M. this day, as had been requested.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 108

Secret Memorandum addressed to Sir J. Drummond Hay by direction of the Sultan.

(Translation)

WHAT the personage seeks for is now known. He requests that fortresses be built on the frontier as guard-houses, that a market be established near Oochda, and that a railroad be made from that market until it reaches the railroad on the confines of the Algerine territory.

On account of these requests we ask, oh, friend, how to reply to them. Do not fail to reply with speed. If any other demand is put forward it will be made known directly, if it please God.

Inclosure 2 in No. 108.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Sultan's Chamberlain

(Translation)

(After usual compliments.)

10 Shaban, 1302 (May 26, 1885).

THE express courier, with your letter of 5 Shaban (20th May), transmitting the Memorandum of His Shereefian Majesty, reached me at 8 P.M. yesterday.

I enclose a Memorandum of my observations in reply. Have the goodness to deliver it to the Sultan, and to inform His Shereefian Majesty that Cid Mahommeel Bargash has never replied to my last letter about the telegraph informing him that all the Representatives have agreed not to raise objections, and declared they accepted the conditions. It is more manifest than ever that it is desirable on every account, for the interests of the Sultan, that there should be immediate means of communication by telegraph with those Governments which have an interest in the welfare of Morocco.

Courier is dispatched to-day at 1.30 P.M.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 108.

Memorandum by Sir J. Drummond Hay for the Sultan.

(Translation)

IF the fortresses which the French desire to erect are within the Algerian frontier, the Sultan cannot object; but it might be observed in replying that the erection of fortresses on the frontier, when it is known that the Moorish Government have neither the power nor the inclination to act aggressively towards the powerful French Republic, might be regarded by the population as a hostile measure towards Morocco.

If a market is established at Oochda, where French and other merchandise can be brought and sold, it would produce a serious diminution in the customs at the Moorish ports, which at present is the chief source of revenue of His Shereefian Majesty's Treasury.

* See No. 108.

† See No. 108, Commercial, of April 16, 1885.

With regard to the proposed railroad, the reply might be that in the time of the Sultan Mula. Mohammed the British Minister requested that a concession should be made to a British Company to make a railroad in the interior. It was refused, but the British Minister was given to understand that his request would be borne in mind, and that no preference would be given to other applicants. It is stated that a similar request was made some years past by the Spanish Minister. It might be observed, therefore, in reply, that the concession now asked for could not properly be granted, as it might be a subject for complaint by these Governments that a preference had been shown to the French. His Shereefian Majesty will have to bear in mind that if the French Government or a French Company make a railroad from the Algerian frontier to a town in Morocco it is more than probable that, once the railroad was completed, it would be considered as French property, and therefore solely under French protection and jurisdiction, and demands for heavy indemnities would no doubt be put forward if any injury was done to the road or carriages, or any detriment to the free traffic. The road might also be made use of for military purposes.

There is no doubt that the introduction of railroads throughout His Shereefian Majesty's dominions would tend greatly to develop trade and the welfare in general of the country, but such works should in the first place be introduced from the seacoast to the capitals of Fez and Morocco, and might hereafter be extended to the towns of the interior, or even to Algeria; but to establish such railroads between Algeria and Moorish towns at the present time is a matter for very serious consideration both in a military, political, and fiscal point of view.

No. 110.

*Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.**

(No. 554. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, June 2, 1885.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith, for your confidential information, copies of despatches, as marked in the margin,† from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, upon the subject of the relations between France and Morocco.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 111

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 26. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 2, 1885.

YOUR despatches No. 39, Confidential, of the 24th May, and No. 40, Confidential, of the 26th May, upon the subject of the relations between France and Morocco, have been received and laid before the Queen, and I have to state to you that your proceedings as reported in those despatches are approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 112.

Sir W. White to Earl Granville.—(Received June 3.)

(No. 283.)

My Lord,

Therapia, May 29, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to report that Baron Testa, the First Dragoman of the German Embassy here, has been appointed Minister Resident to Morocco.

Herr Testa is, of course, a first-rate Oriental scholar, and his services, which were extremely valuable, will be much missed at the Imperial Embassy at Constantinople. He

* Also to Sir E. Morier (No. 55, Confidential).

† Nos. 106 and 108.

is the descendant of an old Genoese family settled here. His uncle was in the Prussian Diplomatic Service, and he received a German education.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. A. WHITE.

No. 113.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received June 4.)

(No. 41)
My Lord,

Tangier, May 27, 1885.

THE foreign Representatives at Tangier have the privilege of importing from Europe, or from the Moorish ports, free of duty, the provisions they may require for their own households, and for those of the officers of their Missions.*

The price of grain at Tangier frequently exceeds by 50 per cent the price at the western ports, and therefore it is an advantage to obtain wheat and barley from the latter by sea, carriage by land being very expensive.

As the Moorish Government does not permit the conveyance of grain from one port to another by sea, foreign Representatives, when requiring wheat or barley, address a letter to the Moorish Minister, applying for a permit, and making a declaration that the grain is for their own use, or for that of the members of their Legations.

I obtain every year a permit† for the quantity of grain necessary for my household, and for those of Her Majesty's Consul, and of the officers of this Legation.

Some of the Representatives have of late years taken advantage of this privilege to obtain grants for the importation by sea of very considerable quantities of grain, stating that it is for the use of their Legations, although they make it over to the subjects or citizens of the nations they represent, not only as provisions for their households, but also for purposes of trade.

During the famine, when wheat was extremely dear, I obtained a larger grant for the use of the Legation, but I distinctly informed the Minister that I had done so in order to relieve the necessities of British subjects, and that I had made it a condition with the latter that the wheat they were permitted to import was not to be sold, but was solely for provisioning their households.

This year some of the foreign Representatives have obtained grants amounting to about 4,000 bushels of wheat, and a large quantity of barley, stating in their written applications to the Moorish Minister that this grain was for the use of their Legations, but they have nevertheless transferred it to the subjects or citizens of their respective nations for purposes of trade, or as provisions for their households.

British subjects are to be placed on the same footing as other foreign subjects. I addressed a letter to the Acting Minister, Hadj Mohammed Torres, requesting that a permit be given me to import 10,000 fanegas of wheat and 5,000 of barley, in order that I may be enabled to cause this grain to be distributed amongst British subjects for their households, and thus place them on an equal footing with the subjects of other Powers. I added that as there is a greater number of British subjects at Tangier than of all the other nations together, excepting Spaniards, who are the most numerous, I had asked for this quantity of wheat, which was only double what was asked for by other Representatives, who had not even a dozen subjects of their nations residing at Tangier. I took that opportunity also of pointing out how unwise is the policy of not permitting the coasting trade in wheat and barley.

Hadj Mohammed Torres replied that he had no authority to grant a permit, unless it was distinctly stated in the application that it was for the use of the Legation, and that if I mentioned in my note that it was for the use of private individuals, he had no authority to grant it.

I called on Hadj Mohammed Torres, and explained to him that, though other Representatives had chosen to declare that the quantity of grain they applied for was for the use of their Legations, when it was palpable no household could consume such quantities, and it was publicly known that the grain was transferred to merchants and others to make a profit on it, it was contrary to my ideas of rectitude to take advantage of a diplomatic privilege to make a declaration which was not true, but that as British subjects had good grounds for complaining that I did not obtain for them the privileges which other foreign

* See Article III of Treaty of 1797.

† I have not as yet done so this year.—J. H. D. H.

subjects enjoyed in this respect, I hoped he would accede to my request, and issue the permit for the quantity I had applied for.

Hadj Mohammed Torres replied that he admitted the justice of my observations, but that he could not issue the permit I asked for, unless I stated distinctly in my application that the grain was solely for the use of the Legation.

Under these circumstances, and as I have been informed that letters have been addressed to the newspapers unfavourably criticizing my conduct for not obtaining for British subjects the same privileges as those enjoyed by other foreign subjects, I beg that your Lordship may instruct me whether, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, I should be justified in making the application in the form required by Hadj Mohammed Torres.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 114.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 27.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, June 10, 1885.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 41 of the 27th ultimo, reporting the abuse by certain of the foreign Representatives at Tangier of the diplomatic privilege which they enjoy of importing from Europe or from the Moorish ports free of duty the provisions which they may require for their own households, or for those of the officers of their Missions.

The efforts which you have made to place British subjects on an equal footing with those of other Powers are entirely approved by Her Majesty's Government, but they cannot authorize you to make the declaration required by the Moorish Government as a condition for issuing to you a permit for the importation of 10,000 fanegas of wheat and 5,000 of barley.

You should, however, lose no opportunity of urging the Moorish Government to permit the coasting trade in grain.

I should be glad if you would specify the Legations guilty of the unfair practices to which you very properly have called attention, in order that I may communicate confidentially on the subject with their Governments, should you see no objection to this course being pursued.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 115.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received June 11, 11 30 P.M.)

(Telegraphic)

Tangier (via Gibraltar), June 11, 1885. 6 30 P.M.

I HAVE received notice from the Sultan that he will shortly dispatch Envoy to the Queen. I have sent express to request that he may not be dispatched until I shall have learnt the Queen's pleasure, and I requested to be informed whether there is anything urgent. Wrote Grand Vizier private letter that if there is no matter urgent it would be preferable, as the Queen is generally absent in the summer, to defer mission, especially as the Moorish Government have not fulfilled their promise regarding revision of the Commercial Treaty and other matters have been left pending.

No. 116.

Dr. Arpa to Earl Granville.—(Received June 12.)

(No. 15.)
My Lord,

Tunis, June 8, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith an impression of the "Tunis Journal" of the 6th instant, in which an Order by General Boulanger is published authorizing the French officers and men under his command to make use of their weapons should an

* See "Manchester Guardian" of May 20, the "Globe," and other papers.—J. H. D. H.

assault be committed on them without provocation being offered on their part whilst wearing their uniform.

The Order originated in an aggression, of which a report is given in the same paper, by an Italian upon a French officer, who was struck by the former, and has created a good deal of sensation among the population, who believe that the French military men are authorized to take the law in their own hands.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P ARPA.

Inclosure in No. 116.

Extract from the "Tunis Journal" of June 6, 1885.

ORDRE GÉNÉRAL.—Dans la soirée du 2 Juin un officier en uniforme a été brutalement frappé à la sortie du Théâtre des Variétés par un Italien qu'il n'avait en aucune façon provoqué.

L'agresseur traduit devant le Tribunal Correctionnel de Tunis a été condamné le 4 Juin à six jours de prison.

Ce Jugement met le Général commandant la division dans la nécessité de donner des instructions formelles pour assurer le respect de l'uniforme Français, la sécurité des militaires, et le châtiment des agresseurs.

En conséquence il est ordonné à tout militaire en uniforme, officier, sous-officier, brigadier, caporal ou soldat de faire usage de ses armes toutes les fois qu'il sera, sans provocation de sa part, assailli ou frappé par un individu de nationalité quelconque.

Il est en outre recommandé aux hommes de troupe de ne pas circuler isolément, et de ne pas se rendre seuls dans des établissements publics.

Cet ordre sera lu à trois appels généraux

Le Général de Division.
(Signé) BOULANGER.

Tunis, le 4 Juin, 1885.

No. 117.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

(No. 506.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, June 15, 1885.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's perusal, a despatch from the British Consul at Tunis, inclosing copy of an Order issued by General Boulanger authorizing the French officers and men under his command at Tunis to make use of their weapons if assaulted.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 118.

Karl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 23.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 15, 1885.

HER Majesty's Government approve your action in dissuading the Sultan of Morocco from sending a Mission to this country, as reported in your telegram of the 11th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

* No. 116.

No. 119.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received June 16.)

(No. 44.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 8, 1885.

M FERAUD returned yesterday from the Moorish Court. A number of the military officers, who had accompanied him arrived here last week, and left for Algeria.

M Feraud addressed me a letter, as Doyen, of which I have the honour to transmit a copy, making known the successful result of his application to the Sultan, in the name of all the Representatives, for the construction of a mole or pier at Tangier, and of a breakwater at Daralhaida, and stating that orders had been given to the port officers to be more active in their duties.

I have communicated M Feraud's letter and the translation of the letter addressed to him by the Vizir to the members of the Diplomatic Corps, and I proposed that we should await the receipt of the letters, which the Vizir mentions he has addressed us, and that the meeting to discuss these questions should take place at the residence of the Acting Minister, Hadj Mohammed Torres.

I trust that there will be no objections raised by any of the Representatives to admit the right of this Government to levy reasonable dues on shipping or merchandise on account of the proposed works, but when I obtained, years ago, the consent of the Sultan for effecting similar improvements, the matter fell through owing to the Spanish Minister at that time having objected to the levying of such dues. I have every reason, however, to believe that the present Spanish Minister, M. Diosdado, will act on this occasion in concert with his colleagues.

With regard to the Sultan's orders to the port authorities, of which M Feraud informs us he is the bearer, I had already obtained that similar orders should be sent by His Shereefian Majesty to various ports, but the repetition of such orders will, no doubt, produce a good effect, as there have been frequent complaints of irregularities and negligence on the part of the port officers.

I called on M. Feraud this morning to congratulate him on his return, and on the successful issue of his negotiations at the Court for carrying out the wishes of the Representatives.

He informed me that he had been extremely well received by the Sultan and his Ministers, and that he had every reason to be pleased and satisfied.

I am told that the Sultan presented to M. Feraud and his suite a number of horses, that for the Minister very richly caparisoned; swords of honour, and other unusually costly gifts, which was to be expected, considering the valuable presents M Feraud conveyed to the Court, in field-guns, thorough-bred mares, telephones, electric lights, &c.

It is reported that M. Feraud refused to present or to support, as his predecessors had done, the trumped-up claims of protected Jews and others, and that he even made known to the Sultan that notarial documents are frequently forged by protected Jews in concert with law officers. It is said that numbers of "adool," or public notaries, have consequently been arrested by order of the Sultan.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 119.

M. Feraud to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

M et cher Collègue,

Tangier, le 8 Juin, 1885.

DANS ma séance du mois d'Avril dernier, le Corps Diplomatique m'a chargé de soumettre à Sa Majesté Chérifienne un projet d'après lequel le Gouvernement Marocain s'engagerait à faire construire un môle dans le port de Tanger et un brise-lames dans celui de Casablanca, moyennant une surtaxe dont seraient frappées les marchandises. Le Grand Vizir m'a fait connaître la réponse du Sultan par une lettre dont j'ai l'honneur de vous adresser ci-joint la traduction, et que je vous prie de vouloir bien communiquer au Corps Diplomatique.

D'autre part, et conformément au désir que m'en avait également exprimé le Corps Diplomatique, j'ai saisi Sa Majesté Chérifienne d'une plainte contre les capitaines de ports, dont les lenteurs et le mauvais vouloir compromettent tous les jours plus grave-

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ment les intérêts commerciaux Européens. Le Grand Vizir m'a remis quatorze lettres enjoignant aux divers fonctionnaires de la côte d'apporter à l'avenir toute la célérité et toute la vigilance désirables dans leurs rapports avec les capitaines marchands, s'ils ne veulent pas encourir les mesures disciplinaires les plus rigoureuses.

Je vous laisse le soin de fixer le jour où le Corps Diplomatique pourrait se réunir pour prendre connaissance de ces documents

Agrées, &c
(Signé) FERAUD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 119

The Grand Vizir to M. Feraud.

(Traduction.)

Le 9 Chaban, 1302 (26 Mai, 1885).

L'EMPEREUR mon Maître a examiné avec attention ce que vous avez écrit au sujet de la construction d'un mole dans le port de Tanger et d'un brise-lames dans celui de Dar-el-barda.

Il s'est fait une idée exacte de tout ce que vous lui avez signalé à ce sujet, et il m'a donné l'ordre de vous répondre dans le sens ci-après indiqué. Vous savez assez bon pour vous réunir avec les autres Ministres vos collègues et Cid Mohammed Torres. Vous vous consulterez au sujet de la venue d'un ingénieur qui serait chargé d'évaluer tout ce qui est relatif à cet objet. Vous vous entendrez pour faire venir chacun un ingénieur. Chacun d'eux donnerait son évaluation et l'on verrait quelle est celle dont l'adoption serait préférable, ou bien l'un de vous pourrait faire venir de son pays un ingénieur. Et d'après l'évaluation qu'il ferait on prélèverait une surtaxe sur tout ce qui entrerait dans le port afin de l'appliquer à l'œuvre en question. Cette surtaxe serait bien entendu supprimée du jour où l'œuvre aurait rencontré sa pleine et entière réalisation. Nous avons écrit dans ce sens à Mohammed Torres et aux autres Ministres, et vous voudrez bien nous faire savoir ultérieurement ce qui aura été décidé entre vous afin que nous en donnions communication à Sa Majesté.

(Signé) MOHAMMED BEN EL ARBI.

No. 120.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received June 16.)

(No. 45. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 9, 1885.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 44 of yesterday's date, reporting the arrival of M. Feraud from the Moorish Court, and my visit to him, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that during our conversation he expressed his dissatisfaction that English and Spanish papers should have announced that he had been sent to the Court to seek for a rectification of the frontier, which, he assured me, was a "canard"; and he added that it was much to be deplored that the "Réveil du Maroc" and other local papers should be allowed to publish inaccurate and malevolent statements, such as that he had been badly received by one of the Governors of Algarh, that he had had unpleasant questions with a Minister at the Moorish Court, all which he declared to be untrue, and he hoped that I did not believe these reports.

I replied that I had seen in the "Gibraltar Chronicle" and other English papers copies of telegrams published in French journals, announcing that the chief object of his mission was to obtain certain concessions regarding the frontier, but that as he had given me his "parole d'honneur" before he left for the Court that he had no matters of importance to negotiate, I had not paid much attention to these reports; that with regard to the accounts given in the local papers, such as the "Réveil" and others, I was the last person to give credence to them, as I had been, and continued to be, the butt of their malevolence, by the insertion of all kinds of mendacious statements and charges in their columns, that I had at first been much annoyed by their publication, but that now I had become quite callous, and that when I am not abused I feel as if importance was no longer attached to my proceedings.

I added even editors of, and contributors to, eminent journals have lavished abuse upon me, and have made charges of a calumnious character, but I felt so much indebted to these persons for having done so, on account of the manner in which

Her Majesty's Government had vindicated my character and conferred honour upon me, that, I added laughingly, it was almost a subject for regret when they ceased to abuse me.

M. Charrier, one of the chief contributors to the "Débats," who had accompanied M. Feraud to the Court, was present when I expressed myself thus to M. Feraud. He wrote last year several virulent leaders in the "Débats" regarding me. He was introduced to me by M. Feraud, but when I made use of this language, I did not address myself to him, or show in any manner that I felt unfriendly towards him.

M. Feraud informed me that he was going to Paris in about a fortnight. Though he did not say so, I believe he accompanies the Moorish Embassy, which the Sultan is sending to Paris. The "Safer," as the Envoy is called, who has been selected, is Cid Abdelmalek-el-Hashmy, Governor of the frontier town of Ouchda, and formerly "Khaleefa," or Lieutenant-Governor of Tangier; a shrewd, intelligent officer; but the fact of his having been selected for this mission convinces me that the question of the rectification of the frontier is under discussion.

I have not received any further information from the Court upon this subject,* but Cid Mohammed Ben Suleyman tells me that as far as he can learn, the Sultan has not made any concession either about frontiers or about railways to M. Feraud.

An Embassy is also to be sent to Paris. The Basha of Tangier, Kaid Abdessadok, who has been at the Court for some months, is expected to return here this week, and will proceed as "Safer" to the Spanish Court. I understand that presents of horses, &c., are to be sent by the Sultan both to Paris and Madrid, and that the French and Spanish Governments intend to dispatch vessels of war to convey the Embassies and horses to their several destinations.

An Embassy is also to be sent to Rome.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY

P.S. I hear there is an article in the Spanish paper "Epoca," which I have not seen, wherein mention is made of the request of the French Government to build fortifications on the frontier, and for the concession of a railroad to Ouchda. This information must have transpired from the Foreign Office at Madrid, for the Sultan had requested M. Diodado to express his opinion upon the demands put forward by M. Feraud in the same manner as His Shereefian Majesty had addressed himself confidentially to me for advice upon this subject.

A French frigate is in the bay, awaiting, as I am told, the Moorish Envoy.

J. H. D. H.

No. 121.

Mr. Wingfield to Mr. Lister.—(Received June 16.)

Sir,

Downing Street, June 15, 1885.

WITH reference to your letter of the 9th April last, on the subject of certain property at Gibraltar claimed by the Sultan of Morocco, I am directed by the Earl of Derby to transmit to you, to be laid before Earl Granville a copy of a despatch from the Governor of Gibraltar, proposing certain modifications in the communication to be made to the Sultan.

Lord Derby would suggest for Lord Granville's consideration that, unless Sir J. Drummond Hay is aware of any reason against this course, the communication to the Sultan should be made on the basis of Sir John Aclay's recommendations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD WINGFIELD

Inclosure 1 in No. 121.

Governor Sir J. Aclay to the Earl of Derby.

My Lord,

Gibraltar, June 3, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 16th April, 1885, transmitting, for my consideration and report, a copy of a

* See No. 109.

† See No. 106.

letter from the Foreign Office, inclosing a despatch from Sir J. Drummond Hay on the subject of the disposal of certain property in Gibraltar which is said to be claimed by the Sultan of Morocco.

2. I forwarded the despatch of Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Crown Land Board for their opinion, and beg to submit their reply, from which it will be ascertained that three members are of one opinion, "that the Moorish Consul, as the Representative of the Sultan, be permitted the free occupation and enjoyment of the house in Waterport Street, paying a nominal rent to the Crown, and that the Moorish Government be allowed to sell or dispose of the property in City Mill Lane, moreover, that, in consideration of the cession of these two properties, the Sultan of Morocco be asked to relinquish his claim to the ground situate at the south."

3. With this opinion the Captain of the Port may be said to concur.

4. I concur in the opinion of the majority, and beg to recommend that a communication may be addressed to the Foreign Office with a view to an arrangement being made with the Sultan of Morocco that will enable the properties to be dealt with in the manner proposed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ADYE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 121.

Mr. Campbell to the Colonial Secretary.

My Lord,

IN pursuance of instructions conveyed in Colonial Secretary's Memorandum of the 24th April, 1885, I have the honour to inclose, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, five separate Reports of the Commissioners of Crown Lands on the subject of the three properties claimed by the Sultan of Morocco.

His Excellency will be able to see by the inclosed Reports that three members (the Colonial Secretary, Registrar, and Police Magistrate) are of one opinion, viz., that the Moorish Consul, as the Representative of the Sultan, be permitted the free occupation and enjoyment of the house in Waterport Street, paying a nominal rent to the Crown, and that the Moorish Government be allowed to sell or dispose of the property in City Mill Lane, moreover, that, in consideration of the cession of these two properties, the Sultan of Morocco be asked to relinquish his claim to the ground situate at the south.

The Captain of the Port thinks much as the majority, viz., that the Moorish Government should be asked to surrender their right to the property at the south in consideration of our ceding the two town properties, but that, should this subject fail to be secured, then the three properties to be given over to the Moorish Government.

The Treasurer recommends that the three properties should be sold by public auction, and the proceeds handed over to Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Tangier for transmission to the Sultan, as it is quite contrary to the law that an alien should hold landed property in Gibraltar.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MELFORD CAMPBELL,
Treasurer and Collector of Her Majesty's Revenues.

Inclosure 3 in No. 121

Memorandum.

The Right Honourable the Colonial Secretary,

AS requested in your Memorandum of the 8th instant, I now return the papers therein referred to, with my remarks.

1. The views expressed by Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, in his letter No. 20 of the 30th March, 1885, to Lord Granville, must, I conceive, command very great weight, based as they are upon his thorough knowledge of all the circumstances of the case, and upon his intimate acquaintance with the feelings of the Emperor of Morocco and his Representatives towards British subjects settled within his dominions, and towards this Colony and Moorish subjects settled here.

2. I think that the question as to the reoccupation or redistribution of these three properties should not be raised if doing so will affect the broader interests of British

residents in Morocco generally, or if it were probable that umbrage might be taken by the Sultan or his Representatives in consequence of such action, which, however, I cannot think probable.

3. Whether the Treaties of 1801 and 1856 do or do not confer rights of reciprocity upon Moorish subjects, referred to in the despatch of Sir J. D. Hay, it would for the reasons mentioned by him, be impolitic to raise a question which might even slightly disturb the amicable relations which have hitherto existed, to the advantage of Gibraltar and of British subjects residing in Morocco.

4. I do not, however, concur in the opinion expressed by Sir J. D. Hay that the Sultan has a claim by prescriptive right of long occupation (sixty-five years) in these properties, the law that the rights of the Crown are not barred by time being equally in force here as in England.

5. It is, in my opinion, probable that the present Sultan has no knowledge of the properties in question, nor of his rights or supposed rights in them, neither does it appear desirable that the Sultan, or the Sultan's name, should be personally brought into a discussion which might be more easily settled with his Representative in Gibraltar than could be done through the intervention of the British Minister at Morocco, which would be giving it undue importance in that country.

6. If called upon to offer an opinion I would advise—

(1) That the Moorish Consul here, as the Representative of the Sultan, be confirmed in the free occupation and enjoyment of the house in Waterport Street, he paying therefor to the Crown the nominal rent of a peppercorn, or 1 peseta, annually, in the name of the Emperor of Morocco.

(2.) That the Moorish Consul, as representing the Emperor of Morocco as the successor under Moorish law and the Reciprocity Treaties of Hamet Benamor Beggid, the Moorish merchant who died in the year 1820, intestate and without direct heirs, in Gibraltar, be allowed to sell or dispose of the moiety of the property situate corner of the City Mill Lane, formerly held by the said Hamet Benamor Beggid, in conjunction with the heirs of Emanuel Vialo, on the understanding that he, the said Moorish Consul, as the Representative in Gibraltar of the Emperor of Morocco, shall communicate to his Government what has taken place, or otherwise satisfy his Excellency the Governor of his authority to act and deal with the properties. Any purchaser of this moiety should likewise understand that he will purchase under the condition of paying a nominal ground-rent to the Crown.

7. With reference to the property or garden ground at the south, which is a long strip of land adjoining or near to the South Pavilion Barrack Mess House, extending from the Upper South Barrack Road to Europa Main Road above, and being No. 1104 in the plan of the garrison, it is, I consider, a very desirable property to retain under the control of the Crown; and probably there might be no great difficulty in arranging with the Moorish Consul for the renunciation of any rights or supposed rights that the Sultan, or he as the Sultan's Representative, may have in the property or in the rental derived from it, if the negotiation is judiciously managed in conjunction with the arrangement for the cession of the two other properties. At the same time, the remarks of his Excellency Sir John Drummond Hay with reference to the grants of land made by the Sultan in favour of British residents in his dominions for erecting chapels, burial-grounds, &c., must have every consideration given to them, and be accepted as a set-off for the cession of all three properties, should it be insisted that under the Reciprocity Treaties the Sultan of Morocco is entitled to succeed to the inheritance of the real estate of his own subjects who die in Gibraltar intestate and without other direct heirs.

(Signed) EDWARD J. BAUMGARTNER,
Master and Registrar, Supreme Court.

Supreme Court, Gibraltar, May 16, 1885.

Remarks of the Colonial Secretary

With due deference, I cannot but help thinking that the British Minister in Morocco has taken somewhat a strained view of this case. I entirely concur with the remarks of the Registrar in sections 4, 5, 6, and 7 down to "two other properties," and think the reply should be in the sense of those paragraphs.

(Signed) GIFFORD, Colonial Secretary.
May 19, 1885.

Inclosure 4 in No. 121.

Memorandum forwarded to the Police Magistrate and the Captain of the Port.

I AGREE with the Colonial Secretary and the lucid remarks of the Registrar. The course proposed by him seems to open the way to a satisfactory arrangement, but it seems doubtful, if we surrender two properties, how far we shall be met in claiming the other, and really the most valuable of the whole.

(Signed) GEO. J. GILBARD, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Police Magistrate.

May 20, 1885.

Inclosure 5 in No. 121.

Memorandum from the Captain of the Port respecting Properties in Gibraltar claimed by Representatives of the late Moorish Subject.

I CONSIDER that the suggestion made by his Excellency Sir John Hay with respect to the appropriation of properties Nos. 178 and 393 both fair and reasonable, and I advise that a settlement on the basis he proposes be carried out.

It is evident from the correspondence which has taken place respecting these properties at various periods that our right to them has not been uninterruptedly claimed by the Crown, for it appears that on the 15th September, 1828, a proposal was made by the Secretary of State to the British Consul-General in Morocco that the properties in dispute should be disposed of, and that the money they realized should be retained in the hands of the Consul-General for the benefit of the Sultan, and devoted to the payment of claims certain British subjects had outstanding against the Government of Morocco.

In subsequent correspondence it seems that for some unexplained reason this proposal was not carried into effect, and the matter was dropped until the 11th June, 1841, when the Secretary of State appears to have decided to make a renewed claim on the properties, which has since that date at various intervals been maintained.

Under all the attendant circumstances which are involved in the question of these properties, and in view of the proposal which was made in the year 1828 by the Secretary of State, which I consider constitutes an indirect recognition and right of the Emperor to them, I submit whether, considering the friendly relations which exist between the two Powers, it is advisable to raise any international question over the matter, and although I am of opinion that no claim can be preferred by the Emperor of Morocco either on the grounds of prescriptive rights, nor yet under the Treaty alluded to in the correspondence; still, I consider that the indirect offer of these properties on the terms proposed by the Secretary of State in 1828 might, if the question were referred to arbitration, be considered a forfeiture of title on our part, although it were shown that at a later period the claim to it was subsequently renewed and set up by the Crown.

I notice that only two properties are mentioned in the despatch of his Excellency Sir John Hay, although in the correspondence there appears to be a third one, situated in the south. However, I propose that the settlement of the properties in dispute be left, as I previously suggested, in the hands of his Excellency, who may possibly make such arrangements with the Moorish Government that, on our consenting to hand over the properties in the town to the Moorish Government they, on their part, may surrender any claims on other properties. Should that not be obtainable, I am of opinion that the lot should be handed over, and the question which has for so long a period been deferred be finally settled on the terms suggested by his Excellency Sir John Hay.

(Signed) F. BAKER, Captain of the Port.

May 26, 1885.

Inclosure 6 in No. 121.

Remarks of the Treasurer and Collector of Her Majesty's Revenues.

WITH reference to the correspondence regarding properties Nos. 178 and 393 in the town district, and No. 1104 in the south or country district, inasmuch as in the year 1828 the British Government seemed to have waived their claim to the properties in question, I consider the best plan would be still to allow the Sultan, as a matter of courtesy, to be considered as the proprietor of all these properties; but as it is contrary to the Order in

Council of 1819 that aliens should hold land or house property in Gibraltar, I propose that all the properties should be sold by public auction, and the proceeds handed over to Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Tangier for transmission to the Sultan of Morocco.

The eyecore in the town caused by the vacant plot of ground, which in a great measure led to the renewal of the discussion as to the disposal of these properties, will thus be done away with, and courtesy shown to the Sultan of Morocco, who (as I gather from Sir J. D. Hay's despatch dated the 30th March, 1885) has on many occasions favoured British interests.

I think, on the hand, if the Moorish Government were allowed, as is proposed by other members of the Board, to retain any one of these properties, say the one for the Moorish Consul's residence, the same privilege might be claimed by other foreign Governments, and the concession granted to the Sultan of Morocco might be advanced as a precedent, though quite contrary to the Order in Council of 1819.

(Signed) MELFORD CAMPBELL,
Treasurer and Collector of Her Majesty's Revenues

Gibraltar, May 27, 1885.

No. 122.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay

(No. 29.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 18, 1885.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 26 of the 30th March last, upon the subject of certain property at Gibraltar claimed by the Sultan of Morocco, I transmit to you herewith copy of a despatch from the Governor of Gibraltar, proposing certain modifications in the communication to be made to the Sultan,* and, unless you see any reason against such a course, I have to request you to frame your communication to the Sultan on the basis of Sir John Adye's recommendations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 123.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received June 22)

(No. 46. Ext. 3.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 10, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I have received a letter from the Court acquainting me that it is the intention of the Sultan to dispatch shortly a special Envoy to Her Majesty the Queen, in order to renew assurances of friendship.

I have replied by express courier requesting that His Sherrefian Majesty should not send the Envoy until I shall have learnt Her Majesty's pleasure on the subject, and I further desired to be informed whether there was any matter of urgency to be discussed.

I also addressed the Vizier a private letter, in which I informed him that should there be no matters of urgency to be treated of, as Her Majesty is generally absent from London during the summer, it would be more convenient if the Mission were deferred, more especially as the promises made by the Moorish Government for the revision of the Convention of Commerce have not been fulfilled, and other questions have been left unsettled.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

No. 124.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received June 18.)

(No. 47.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 10, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the translation of a letter addressed to me by the Vizier, informing me that the Sultan is about to dispatch an Envoy to the Queen. No

[* Inclosure 1 in No. 121.]

special object is mentioned, further than that of renewing assurances of friendship on the part of His Majesty.

I have reported to your Lordship in a late despatch* that the Sultan is also sending Envoys to Paris, Madrid, and Rome. As these Envoys generally convey gifts of horses, &c., to the Sovereigns to whom they are accredited, and as it is usual and therefore expected by this Government, that a vessel of war should be sent to convey the Envoy and horses to the country for which the Mission is destined, and as I think that this would only be a source of embarrassment and moreover entail a useless expenditure to Her Majesty's Government, I have requested, as your Lordship will learn from my reply to the Vizier, of which I inclose a translation, that the Envoy should not be dispatched until I can learn from your Lordship whether it would be convenient for the Queen to receive the Moorish Envoy at this season.

It appeared to me, also, that this would be a favourable opportunity for letting the Sultan and his advisers clearly understand that professions of friendship are valueless when practical proofs of their sincerity are wanting. Under these circumstances I dispatched by the same courier who conveyed the above-mentioned reply to the Vizier a private and confidential letter, of which I have the honour to transmit a translation. In this communication I pointed out that they have failed to fulfil their promise to send the Commissioners to negotiate a revision of the Convention of Commerce, and that other matters affecting the interests of British subjects are not dealt with in a satisfactory manner; and, therefore, I was led to apprehend that the Envoy to the Queen might not be received with that cordiality and welcome by Her Majesty's Government which I should otherwise have desired.

I trust, my Lord, it will not be considered that I have erred in judgment in taking such a step; but it appeared to me that, unless the Envoy has any matter of importance to bring under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, neither the empty assurances of friendship nor the gifts of which the Envoy may be the bearer will be acceptable to Her Majesty, especially as it has hitherto been the practice, both of the British and of other foreign Governments, to defray the travelling and hotel expenses of Moorish Envoys and their suites.

If the revision of the Convention of Commerce had been effected satisfactorily I should certainly have recommended that the Envoy be received and entertained as the Representative of a Government which had given solid proofs of its desire to meet the wishes of Her Majesty's Government and to gain the good-will of the British people.

In a conversation which I had this morning with the Acting Minister Hadj Mohammed Torres, and with Cid Mohammed ben Sucreman, they did not seem to think that the Sultan in sending the Envoy, had any special object in view further than a desire, when he is on the point of dispatching Envoys to other Courts, to send one also to the British Government, which has always upheld the integrity and independence of Morocco.

Should your Lordship, however, direct me to inform the Sultan that the Queen will receive the Envoy—and as there will no doubt be sent with him a present of horses, such as, I understand, are about to be dispatched to Madrid, Paris, and Rome—and as I consider the habits of this country are not worth the expense of conveyance to England, especially as they are stallions, and are, therefore, not fit for riding, and are not worth breeding from—I have to suggest that I give this Government to understand, in a friendly way, that such gifts would not be acceptable.

The Sultan is no doubt animated by sincere feelings of friendship in his desire to send an Envoy to the Queen simultaneously with the Envoys dispatched to other Powers, but it is, as I have already mentioned, a favourable opportunity to let His Majesty understand that, if he desires to cement the ties of friendship between the two countries, the best course to pursue is to seek to promote the welfare of his subjects by facilitating the development of commercial relations with Great Britain, and thereby, also, the agricultural prosperity and wealth of Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 124.

The Vizier to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(Translation.)
Praise to God!

TO the well-beloved, the judicious Counsellor, who seeks to promote good-will between the two friendly Governments, the Minister of the powerful Queen of Great Britain and Empress of India in the dominions of Morocco. After additional inquiries after you and your welfare and hoping that you may always be in prosperity, we have to inform you that our Lord (the Sultan), protected by God, is about to send a "Safer" (Envoy) to your powerful Government, in his desire to renew the friendship between the two parties, and he will soon reach you. It had been the intention of our Lord (may God grant him honour), to dispatch him (the Safer) on his arrival at Fez, and he had wished that he should have preceded (the Envoys sent to other Governments) in his departure, on account of the ancient friendship and perfect good-will inherited from her (the Queen's) ancestors, seeking to promote the welfare of this country, and to prevent evil befalling it (this is known to every one). The reason why the Mission has been delayed is on account of (Her Majesty) being occupied with weighty affairs, like those of Egypt and the neighbouring regions. It having now come to his knowledge that those affairs are settled, and that the troops have been withdrawn from the war, our Lord (may God protect him) has ordered us to inform you of this, so that you may bear it in mind, and make known to your friendly Government his intention to send the "Safer" to the Queen.

May your welfare be prolonged!

Sealed Shaban 19, 1302 (June 3, 1885).

(Signed)

MOHAMMED BEN EL ARBY BEN EL MOKHTAR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 124.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Vizier.

(Translation.)

Shaban 26, 1302 (June 10, 1885)

I HAVE received your letter of 19 Shaban (3rd June), informing me that the Sultan is about to dispatch a "Safer" (Envoy) to the Queen to renew the friendship and good-will between the two Governments, and that the Envoy will arrive shortly, and you request me to make this known to Her Majesty's Government.

I shall lose no time in reporting to Her Majesty's Government the friendly intention of His Shercoffian Majesty to send an Envoy to the Queen, but I have to request that the Envoy who has been selected for this duty should defer his departure for Tangier until I receive the reply, for the Queen does not reside in London at this season, and it is proper that Her Majesty's pleasure should be learnt beforehand as to when it might be convenient to receive the Envoy.

Should there be any matter of great urgency upon which the Envoy has received orders to confer with Her Majesty's Government, I request you to make it known to me, and in such case my gracious Sovereign might take into consideration the expediency of receiving the Envoy.

(Signed)

J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 124.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to the Vizier.

(Translation.)
(Private and Confidential.)

Shaban 26, 1302 (June 10, 1885).

AS a true friend I cannot conceal from you that if the Envoy to the Queen has no matter of great urgency to communicate to Her Majesty's Government, and the sole object of his mission is, as you mention, to renew existing ties of friendship, he would hardly be welcomed with especial marks of good-will and friendship at the present time, for he might be given to understand that professions of friendship and good-will can hardly be regarded as sincere when the Sultan and his Government have not evinced a disposition to fulfil their promise of seeking to promote the interests of both parties, and the welfare of His Majesty's subjects, and of trade, by sending Commissioners to negotiate the revision of the Convention of Commerce.

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The non-settlement and liquidation of various pending claims are a subject of constant complaint to Her Majesty's Government.

The innumerable obstacles placed by Cid Mohammed Bargash in the way of the establishment of telegraphic communication by cable with Gibraltar, though the conditions imposed were accepted, and though the interests of the Sultan and His Majesty's subjects would be benefited thereby, the general apathy and negligence shown also in matters affecting the interests of persons under British protection naturally leave an unfavourable impression in the minds of Her Majesty's Government, and may lead to an estrangement of good will and of that interest in the welfare of Morocco, which had always been evinced by the British Government and people.

Were I not a true friend I should not have been so outspoken, but I think it my duty from the feeling of friendship towards His Sheressian Majesty. I have to request that you place this letter in His Majesty's hands.

I may here remark that I have no answer from you to the letters named in the inclosed list, and especially to that of the 11th March (Jumad I, 3) regarding the Commissioners who, it was promised, would be sent to negotiate the Convention of Commerce.

(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY

No. 125.

Earl Granville to Sir J. S. Lumley.

(No. 170. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 19, 1885.

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, for your Excellency's information, copy of a despatch which has been received from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, on the subject of the relations between France and Morocco.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 126.

Mr. Pace to Earl Granville.—(Received June 22.)

My Lord,

Sfax, June 10, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that the inquiry on the murder of my son has been duly held in this town before the Tunisian Vice-Governor, assisted by Mr. Vice-Consul Leonardi and Mr. Joseph Tabri as Registrar, and it was closed yesterday, although incomplete, owing to there being missing one of the depositions of a European witness, a Mr. A. Borg Olivier, the Vice-Governor having objected to its being taken, an entry of which fact has been inserted in the proceedings.

I reported, in due time, the case to Mr. Judge Arpa at Tunis, and this repeatedly, asking he would kindly obtain from the Tunisian Government the necessary order to the Sub-Governor for taking down such an evidence, which I deemed indispensable for me to have; but, I regret to say, all my efforts were to no avail, as Mr. Consul Judge Arpa has never been pleased to reply to my three consecutive letters sent through the canal of Her Britannic Majesty's Vice-Consulate, nor did I ever obtain the asked-for order.

Whereas it clearly results, from the evidence of the many witnesses examined, both Christians and Moors, that most part of the accused are guilty, I consequently demanded, through Mr. Vice-Consul Leonardi, their arrest, whereupon I received for reply from the Sub-Governor that he had no instructions to arrest them, and they are consequently set free.

I may be permitted, my Lord, to bring under your Lordship's notice the zeal, assiduity, and indefatigable assistance and patience displayed during the proceedings by Mr. Vice-Consul Leonardi, so much so that on seeing my old age and the destitute position to which I am reduced, he had pity of me and succoured me several times. Indeed, what this gentleman did for me is beyond all praise.

I feel in duty bound extremely indebted firstly, for the instructions your Lordship has been pleased to give for the carrying out of this said affair, and secondly, to

* No. 120.

Mr. Vice-Consul Leonardi, for the straightforward manner in which he conducted the proceedings, together with Mr. Joseph Tabri's assistance, the latter gentleman having gratuitously offered himself to attend at the sittings of the Court of Inquiry to take down the depositions in Italian; a copy thereof has been duly forwarded to Mr. Consul Judge Arpa for the winding up of the case.

I finally make bold to hope that your Lordship will be pleased to order Her Majesty's Representative for the Regency of Tunis to bring the matter to a close, and that a good result for me will be the consequence of this ill-fated affair.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GIUSEPPE PACE.

No. 127.

Sir J. Pouncefote to Acting Consul Malmusi

(No. B.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 23, 1885.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you herewith, for inquiry and report, copy of a letter from M. Giuseppe Pace having reference to the inquiry recently held at Sfax into the circumstances of the murder of his son.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 128

Consul-General Playfair to Earl Granville.—(Received June 24.)

(No. 28. Consular)

My Lord,

Algiers, June 20, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that Mr. Arpa left Tunis yesterday, making over charge of the Consulate to the Italian Consul-General, the Chevalier Giulio Malmusi.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. L. PLAYFAIR.

No. 129.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received June 24.)

(No. 402.)

My Lord,

Paris, June 23, 1885

PUBLIC attention at Paris is at this moment much occupied by the affairs of Morocco.

In the first place, rumours have been spread that the recent visit of M. Feraud, the French Minister in Morocco, to the Sultan, was made with the object of obtaining a rectification, to the advantage of France, of the frontier between Morocco and Algeria, and had even gone far towards attaining that object.

In the second place, the arrival of a special Embassy from the Sultan is expected at Paris, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs has applied to the Chamber for a vote of 50,000 fr. 2,000l. for the expenses of receiving it.

Lastly it has been stated in the press, that a French newspaper published at Tangier, under the title of the "Réveil du Maroc," has been suppressed at the instigation of Her Majesty's Minister.

Authentic information on these matters will have reached your Lordship from Sir John Drummond Hay, but as illustrations of the currents of feeling prevalent here, I do myself the honour to send to your Lordship extracts from two Paris newspapers.†

The first is taken from the "Journal des Débats" of yesterday, and consists of a letter written from Tangier by M. Gabriel Charmes. It contains an account of M. Feraud's visit to the Sultan. It denies that M. Feraud proposed a rectification of the frontier, and argues that a demand of the kind would have been inopportune and mischievous, that no such rectification is desirable at the present moment, and that the

* No. 126.

† Not printed.

only object of the mission of M. Feraud was to re-establish perfect cordiality in the relations between France and the Sultan. Henceforward (M. Gabriel Charrier says in conclusion) there will not be the smallest black spot in the horizon of Morocco, and France, being quite tranquil on the west of her possessions in Africa, will be free to give her whole attention to the dark spots which may appear on the east of them, and which it is so much her interest to dissipate pacifically.

The second extract which I inclose is from the "France." It comments with the virulence and the bitter hostility to England characteristic of the journal in which it appears, upon the alleged suppression of the "Réveil du Maroc."

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 130.

Earl Granville to Sir J. Drummond Hay.

(No. 30.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 24, 1885.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatch No. 47 of the 10th instant, inclosing copies of your correspondence with the Vizier respecting the intention of the Sultan of Morocco to send an Envoy to this country, and I have to state that your action in the matter, as reported in your above-mentioned despatch, is approved by Her Majesty's Government.

Should the proposal to send a mission to this country be renewed, you should continue to discourage it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 131.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received June 25.)

(No. 406.)

My Lord,

Paris, June 24, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship, extracted from the "Journal Officiel" of this day, a Report from the Minister for Foreign Affairs to the President of the Republic, and a Presidential Decree conferring upon the Representative of the French Republic at Tunis the title of Resident-General, and giving him increased powers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 131.

Extract from the "Journal Officiel" of June 24, 1885.

LE Président de la République Française,
Vu le Décret du 22 Avril, 1882;
Vu les Lois des 27 Mai, 1881, et 9 Avril, 1884;
Vu la Loi du 27 Mars, 1883;
Sur le rapport du Ministre des Affaires Étrangères,

Décète :

Article 1^{er}. Le Représentant du Gouvernement de la République Française en Tunisie porte le titre de Résident-Général et relève du Ministre des Affaires Étrangères.

Art. 2. Le Résident-Général est le dépositaire des pouvoirs de la République dans la Régence. Il a sous ses ordres les Commandants des troupes de terre et de mer et tous les services administratifs concernant les Européens et les indigènes.

Art. 3. Il a seul le droit de correspondre avec le Gouvernement Français. Exception est faite pour les affaires d'un caractère purement technique et d'ordre intérieur dans chaque Administration Française. Ces affaires pourront être traitées directement avec les Ministres compétents par les Chefs des différents Services institués en Tunisie.

Art. 4. Le Résident-Général communique avec les divers membres du Gouvernement par l'intermédiaire du Ministre des Affaires Étrangères. Il les saisit sans délai de toutes les questions qui intéressent leur Département.

Art. 5. Le Décret du 22 Avril, 1882, est abrogé en ce qu'il a de contraire aux dispositions susénoncées.

Art. 6. Le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères est chargé de l'exécution du présent Décret.

Fait à Paris, le 23 Juin, 1885.

(Signé) JULES GRÉVY.

Par le Président de la République :
Le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères,
(Signé) C. DE FREYNET.

No. 132.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Earl Granville.—(Received June 29.)

(No. 48.)

My Lord,

Tangier, June 19, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 27 of the 10th instant, approving my conduct in not having followed the example of certain foreign Representatives, who have taken advantage of their diplomatic privilege to obtain from this Government permits for the importation of grain to Tangier, declaring that it was for their own consumption, but which was handed over to the subjects of their respective Governments for the purposes of trade, and informing me that your Lordship cannot authorize me to make a declaration such as is required by the Moorish Government to obtain, in like manner, a permit for the importation of grain for the benefit of British subjects.

Your Lordship instructs me to lose no opportunity of urging the Moorish Government to permit the coasting trade in grain.

I am further directed to specify the Legations who have resorted to these unfair practices, in order that your Lordship may communicate confidentially on the subject with their Governments, should I see no objection to this course being pursued.

With the exception of the Spanish and Belgian Ministers, and the Swedish Consul-General, all the other Representatives have obtained permits. This abuse of the diplomatic privilege was commenced by the United States' Consul-General some years ago, and it is generally reported that the grain thus obtained was sold for his own private benefit. The Portuguese Minister is said to have also done likewise.

These irregularities caused the Sultan three years ago to direct the Vizier to address an identic letter to the foreign Representatives, which letter has, however, not been attended to.*

The German Minister, who is an honourable man, with the view of encouraging the trade of two German merchants, who have settled at Tangier, obtained a permit last year to import wheat, and delivered it to them.

The Italian Minister, also an honourable man, informed me that, with the view of placing Italian subjects on as favourable a footing as the German and other foreign subjects, he had obtained a permit for the importation of grain, and had made it over to Italian subjects for their benefit.

The Moorish authorities are perfectly aware of these abuses, and they also know that the United States' Vice-Consul, Mr. Jasper Mathews, son of the United States' Consul-General, has passed through the custom-house closed cases of valuable merchandise from Europe, which would otherwise have to pay high duties, and transferred them covertly to native traders. Other foreign officials have been guilty of like irregularities, and certain British subjects had at one time complained that they could not compete with traders who enjoyed immunities from customs dues.

In concert with other foreign Representatives, who were cognizant of these abuses, I addressed an identic letter to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, of which I transmit a translation, and we induced our colleagues (with the exception of the French Minister, at that time M. Ordega) to take a similar step. For some weeks all cases addressed to foreign officials were opened at the custom-house, but I hear that of late the United States' and Portuguese Representatives have again required that cases and packages addressed to them should be passed unopened, and smuggling no doubt continues.

* See despatch No. 12, Commercial, of May 18, 1882, and Visior's letter therein inclosed.—J. R. D. H.
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As any communication, however confidential, made by your Lordship to a foreign Government upon the abuse of a diplomatic privilege would lead to an inquiry, and as the Representatives, who might be called upon for explanations, knowing how opposed I am to these abuses, would be convinced that I was the informant, a strong feeling of animosity might be raised against me, whilst no doubt those who have imported grain would plead as an excuse that, as the Moorish Government will not allow the coasting trade in grain, and as they desired to facilitate the provisioning of the subjects of their respective Governments at a cheaper rate, they had obtained these permits, and such plausible excuses would probably be accepted.

Moorish officials, moreover, are generally so corrupt that they are disposed to screen rather than to expose these abuses, and they would probably, if called upon, give evidence which might suit the applicant.

Under these circumstances I think it will be preferable that no steps be taken by Her Majesty's Government.

Ebenezer Meakin, editor of the monthly local paper called "The Times of Morocco," who is in the habit of filling its columns with attacks on me, of which I take no notice, had sent, through his correspondent at Gibraltar, a telegram to England, which was published in several leading papers and posted in the London clubs, regarding my having refused to obtain permits for British subjects to import grain in the same manner as other foreign subjects.

In his paper of the 9th instant, of which I transmit a half-sheet, he states that "dependents of the British Legation are supplied with permits, and do a roaring trade." As the "Manchester Guardian" and other papers in England have taken notice of these reports, and as I have thought it possible that some Member of Parliament might put a question in the House as to whether Her Majesty's Government had any knowledge of such malpractices on the part of their officers in Morocco, I take this opportunity of distinctly declaring that I have not obtained this year any permit whatsoever from the Moorish Government, nor even, up to the present date, for the usual supply of barley for my stable and those of the officers of this Legation, which I have hitherto obtained every year, but I have heard that British subjects have bought from foreign subjects permits to import grain, which the latter had received from their Representatives.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 132.

Sir J. Drummond Hay to Hadj Mohammed Torres.

(Translation.)

(After usual compliments.)

27 Rabia I, 1302 (January 14, 1885).

IT has been brought to my knowledge for some time past that boxes containing goods, such as velvets, silks, brocades, and other manufactures of great value, as also prohibited goods, such as arms, sulphur, &c., have constantly been passed through the custom-house by the Oomana on the presentation of documents by cavañies or other dependents of foreign Legations and Consulates, which are alleged to have been signed and sealed by a foreign Representative or Consul. As I desire to prevent the possibility of any person in my service committing or conniving at such disgraceful and fraudulent proceedings, I have to request you to signify to the Oomana that which I have stated on several occasions to their predecessors, viz., that I request them not to pass any box, barrel, or parcel to the address of myself or other members of the British Legation or Consulate, even if a pass be presented, signed by me or by Her Majesty's Consul, if they have the slightest suspicion that the box contains other goods than those specified, but that notice be then given to me or to Her Majesty's Consul, when a person will be immediately sent to the custom-house to be present at the opening of the case, &c., and should it not be found to contain the articles specified in the pass, that the box and contents be confiscated, whilst immediate steps will be taken by me, in concert with the authorities, to discover the party who had been guilty of the fraud.

One of the cogent reasons I have in urging this upon your notice, and asking that measures be taken to repress the abuses which have crept in on account of the privileges granted to foreign officials of their being allowed to pass free through the custom-house articles for their personal use, is that honourable merchants complain that they cannot compete with those traders who have been enabled to obtain the passage of

their goods through the custom-house free of duty by fraudulent means. I request you to communicate a copy of this letter to the Sherrefian Court.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 132.

Extract from the "Times of Morocco" of June 12, 1885.

WHO IS TO BLAME?—The article published in our issue of the 8th May, entitled "How not to do it," has elicited so much applause from the entire European colony here and in Gibraltar, composed of all nationalities, that we are induced to return to the subject, and, first, we reproduce, for the benefit of our supporters in England, the text of a letter signed "An Englishman," published in the "Al-moghreb Al-akaa" of the 10th May:—

"Without the least desire to attenuate the illegality of monopolies on the part of the Morocco Government in shipping wheat and barley on its sole account, nor the shameful proceeding of certain foreign Representatives, who turn into common traffic personal concessions to which they are not entitled, it is, nevertheless, but just to ventilate through the local press a most aggravating question.

"A few days ago I called at the British Consulate here and asked for a permit to bring over from Casablanca by water a sufficient quantity of wheat for my family provision, the difference between the value of grain at that port and ours being considerable.

"What do you think was the answer I received? I was informed, in the first place, that the Sultan objected to private individuals bringing grain from one port to another, because some persons had converted permits, given them for private consumption, to commercial purposes, and therefore Her Britannic Majesty's Legation considered that it could not ask for any permits, as such abuses ought not to be encouraged. To others who like myself applied, it was said that the permits were only given by the Sultan for the benefit of foreign Legations, not for the use of foreign subjects.

"These arguments savour much of the devil preaching Gospel. Just imagine for a moment Moorish officials objecting to abuses made of a few fanegas of wheat or barley, when they themselves violate Treaties by shipping thousands of tons to Europe, to the detriment of legitimate trade. On the other hand, do they not know when they give the Legations permits for 5,000 or more fanegas of grain, that not one hundredth part of the quantity is consumed by the Legation to whom it is given? Furthermore, it would not be amiss to ask our Legation whether sundry large parcels of wheat arrived by the "Empusa," the "Meurthe," &c., consigned to employés of the British Legation, are not of the nature of abuses? Or, does our Consulate only mean to keep itself immaculate so long as it deprives us of a privilege enjoyed by the lowest of German, French, or Italian protégés, while its own satellites pocket large profits made at our expense? I wonder what Her Britannic Majesty's Government would think of their well-paid servants taking presents of any nature from Governments to whom they are accredited. In the eyes of the world, whether such presents are made in hard cash, in objects of value, or other means whereby a profit can be realized, they are no less presents, and consequently illegal.

"Although I only give it for what it is worth, and in no way indorse the statement, yet I am informed by trustworthy persons that the newly-appointed interpreter to His Majesty the King of Denmark's Consulate has been for several months buying wheat and barley at Casablanca and shipping it in the name of others. Yet His Majesty of Denmark has neither Legation nor subjects in Morocco to entitle this sinecure to such exceptional privileges. Another party told me the other day that wheat of the British Legation which came from Casablanca was sold at 1 dollar per 'al moud' here.

"The question reduces itself to this: Are permits to bring wheat and barley from the coast ports to Tangier legal or not? I say they are; and if the Sultan does not consider them so he ought to be made to. If they are illegal for foreign subjects, who really require to save a few dollars, how can they be legal for foreign officials, who are paid by their respective Governments, and whose acceptance of any favours amounts to corrupt practices. Again, from the moment that Legations such as the French, German, Italian, American, &c., get these permits, stating plainly and honestly that they are 'for

* No permits for importation of grain have been obtained or given to dependents or officers of the British Legation by J. H. D. H.

the benefit of their countrymen,' could not the English Legation do as much for Englishmen? Last, though not least, since Her Britannic Majesty's Legation is so jealous of its purity of action and purpose, may I ask how it is its employés are trafficking in that which is prohibited to Her Majesty's subjects? I do not think you, Mr. Editor, can solve this knotty problem; perhaps Lord Granville may do so. It is nevertheless worth noticing that in this, as in most other cases, we are victims of our Legation's . . . let us say 'high principles,' in being treated worse than all other foreign subjects, notwithstanding the most-favoured-nation clause boasted of in our Treaties."

It is necessary to explain that Sir John D. Hay is the Representative of Austria-Hungary, Turkey, Holland, and Denmark, as well as of England, and that in each capacity he has the appointment of subordinates, not one of whom is an Englishman, and each enjoys privileges which are denied to British settlers.

Sir John Hay's friends acknowledge that the state of affairs in Morocco is most deplorable, and that England could, if she would, do much to alleviate the misery of the Moors, but they openly declare that Sir John Hay's hands are tied by the Foreign Office, and that for years past he has been acting both against his judgment and his inclination. If this is the case he is to be pitied indeed, for his unpopularity, and that of his Consul, amongst Moors, Jews, and Christians, is most complete.

Moors ask: "Why do not the English people, who are our friends, assist us to better our condition? They could advise the Sultan, who would listen to them."

Jews ask: "How is it that the British Minister, while pretending to sympathize with us in our difficulties, loses no opportunity of throwing discredit and blame upon us?"

Christians of all nationalities ask: "What are the English people about that they allow their power to be so shamefully abused by their Government and its Representative? What is the meaning of the assurances of Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice to the British Parliament that Sir John Hay is doing all he can to further British interests, while all his actions have a contrary bearing?"

Appeal after appeal has been made through the various Chambers of Commerce to the Foreign Office, but they seem to have no real effect. The deputations are always put off by fair speeches and empty promises, never intended to be fulfilled; but it is high time that this unsatisfactory state of things should come to an end, and we entreat our fellow-countrymen at home to probe this evil to the bottom and have it remedied at once, otherwise it may develop into an incurable national calamity.

"WEIGHED IN THE BALANCES."—Our attention has been called to a very ingenious defence of the policy of Sir John D. Hay, published in the "Gibraltar Chronicle" of the 2nd instant.

The "Chronicle" reproduces a letter which recently appeared in the "Manchester Guardian," signed "Fred. C. Lamb," believed to have been inspired from the British Legation at Tangier.* After making very light of the privilege of bringing grain from the coast to Tangier, Mr. Lamb says:—

"Such permits are issued ostensibly for the household consumption of the grantee, and are issued without prejudice by His Serene Highness' Government, and are in the nature purely of a limited concession. This privilege has been much abused; it has long been the custom for the various Ministers residing in Tangier to extort, in mutual rivalry, licences from the Moorish Government, these licences being distributed among the dependents and protégés of the Legations."

In our opinion it is a stupid arrangement altogether. There are no proper roads in the Empire, and the only means of transit in bad weather is by water, coastwise, and we maintain that no Government in the world has the right to inflict such a monstrous injustice on its subjects as to stop its internal as well as its external trade, especially in "breadstuffs."

Mr. Lamb admits that all nationalities, other than English, readily receive permits to bring grain from the coast, and he might have informed the public that the dependents of the British Legation were plentifully supplied with permits and did a roaring trade.†

Permits were hawked from house to house and sold to British subjects 2 reals per fanega (i.e., about 2½d. per bushel), and we heard of one for 5,000 fanegas sold for 500 dollars, and another for 250 fanegas sold for 125 fr., neither of which was procured

* Not true.—J. H. D. H.

† No permits have been obtained or given to any one by the British Legation. The brother of a dependent of Legation bought a permit from a foreign subject.—J. H. D. H.

for the owner's own use. Notwithstanding, Mr. Lamb is of opinion that the British Minister "correctly represented the national character for dignity and justice" in refusing to allow British subjects to partake of the privilege, thus assuming that he has the right to sacrifice British interests to his own dignity.

It is precisely this spirit of official arrogance and indifference to public opinion which has caused the civil war in Canada. It is the same which deprived us of our American Colonies. It is that which is causing discontent at home and complications abroad, fostering all manner of social and political evils, driving people to listen to the wicked counsels of unscrupulous and designing men, turning loyal, law-abiding citizens into enemies of the Government of our good and gracious Queen. Such riding roughshod over the feelings of the people might pass in the days of the infamous Jeffries, but it will not go down with Englishmen now. They will be governed by men of their own choice, who will consider their interests as mutual, and who are known to be actuated by loyal and patriotic sentiments.

Mr. Lamb says:—

"Now, Sir, as to the Sultan's monopoly of the exportation of wheat and barley, it is true that a large quantity has been exported during the last year on account of His Serene Highness' Government, but the latter, instead of exacting the grain from the farmers at low prices fixed for them, has taken it partly in payment of taxes much in arrear, and partly it has been purchased in the markets at current price."

We cannot imagine how Mr. Lamb obtained this wonderful information. In our issue of the 17th April we gave the substance of a letter exposing the manner in which the Kaïds collect the Sultan's grain for exportation, and we are assured that it is extorted from the poor cultivators in the most cruel manner. The fallacy of Mr. Lamb's statement is sufficiently proved by the fact that the cultivators are not allowed to sell their grain to the merchants, and therefore the Sultan's unscrupulous Kaïds have no competitors, there being no one to whom the oppressed can appeal for relief. Mr. Lamb concludes by observing that England is "too much occupied with foreign affairs to annex Morocco, and, under the circumstances, our policy must be the preservation of the *status quo*, as we can only lose by a foreign annexation." In other words we must "do evil that good may come."

We are shocked and scandalized at this suggestion. There is no excuse whatever for the annexation of Morocco either by England or any other country; but it is the duty of England, as the trusted ally of the Sultan, to aid him in a friendly way to establish a proper administration, and the first thing it ought to do is to clear away the grievances of the British colony, in order that they may assist the Moors in developing the vast resources of their fertile country; and the next, to induce the Sultan to make a revenue settlement of the land, and let the people make the best of their circumstances by remodelling the Treaties of Commerce and opening up the country generally.

The comments of the "Chronicle" are, of course, a chorus of praise of Sir John Hay, in which we regret that we cannot join, as we know the truth of the matter. According to their reasoning, Sir John is perfectly right in ignoring the wishes, feelings, and interests of the British colony in order to keep up his own false dignity. It would appear that his comfort and convenience are the only things to be thought of.

The "Chronicle" goes rather too far when it says: "We have reason to believe that the British Minister applied for this" (i.e., for permits for British subjects to bring in wheat), "but his efforts were futile."

It is simply childish to suggest that the most powerful Minister in all Morocco would have been refused had he applied for such a trivial thing which was immediately granted to all other applicants; besides, Mr. Consul White was indignant when British subjects applied at the Legation for permits.

The "Chronicle" says that "it is hardly likely that Sir John Hay will now stoop to change his policy, even at the expense of drawing down on his head the indignant remonstrances of a limited number of British subjects, who, perhaps not altogether unnaturally, fail to see why they should not have similar advantages to their neighbours."

This fairly illustrates our contention. Sir John has all along assumed an unpleasant attitude towards Englishmen, and has hitherto succeeded in preventing the establishment of a colony here, hence the "limited number" of British subjects alluded to. But now we have a growing colony and a press, in spite of him, and we are heartily welcomed by the Moors, so that he and Mr. Consul White must either do their duty or give place to more enlightened and patriotic men.

We appeal to the good judgment of our countrymen at home to decide whether we are to be "Boycotted," thwarted, and ruined, while the Moors are driven to despair, and in that despair may rush into complications; or whether we shall make friends with them

as a nation and save the Sultan's throne from being upturned and his Empire seized by those who may not be so amicably disposed towards the English.

"Le Réveil du Maroc," commenting upon the same letter, says:—

"As to the British Legation abstaining from these 'extortions' (of permits), we are in a position to affirm that since 1879 this Legation has been one of the first to obtain these permits, and that more recently it has equally obtained them in favour of its *ressortissants*; but if its sentiments of justice and national dignity were not shocked at that time, we do not see the reason why they should be so to-day.

"It is just so with the exportation of oxen, from which all foreign subjects benefit, except English. The Moorish Government knows perfectly well that these concessions are for commerce; the susceptibilities of the British Legation are consequently utterly without foundation.

"As to the policy so 'admirably pursued' by Sir John D. Hay, we cannot but regret that it has produced no other results than that of keeping the country in a state of decay, from which it can only relieve itself by a complete change in its administration.

"The foreign subjects who live in Morocco are divided into two classes: the one which demands the general development of the rich resources of our land and the encouragement of enterprises, in short, the general well-being; the other, the privileged, and, consequently egotistical class, which endeavours by all possible means to keep the whole cake to itself.

"The public will have no difficulty in perceiving to which of these two classes the correspondent of the 'Manchester Guardian' belongs."